EARTH FIRST!

MABON EDITION

September 22, 1985 Vol. V, No. VIII

THE *RADICAL* ENVIRONMENTAL JOURNAL TWO DOLLARS

ARIZONA EARTH FIRST! DEFENDS ON A BROAD FRONT

By John Davis

As Arizona Earth First! (AZ EF!) grows and becomes more active, we have found ourselves surrounded by more environmental battles than we can handle. Issues facing us include: an observatory proposed for the top of Mt. Graham; the Phelps-Dodge copper smelter in Douglas, AZ; a uranium mine proposed for a spot 13 miles south of the Grand Canyon; aircraft traffic in and above the Grand Canyon; the proposed Rio Salado project, with its Cliff Dam for the Verde River; the Central Arizona Project (CAP); Palo Verde nuclear generating station; the proposed $20 million project to "improve" the Mt. Lemmon Highway; development and proposed changes in land use regulations which threaten the Tucson Mountains; a proposed 80 mile long underground particle accelerator for southern Arizona's desert; and timber cutting throughout Arizona National Forests, with especially destructive cutting along the north rim of the Grand Canyon in the Kaibab National Forest and along the Mogollon Plateau in the Apache-Sitgreaves National Forest. AZ EF! has taken actions on several of these issues and has more actions planned.

To oppose the Mt. Graham observatory, we submitted comments and a Mt. Graham Wilderness proposal to the supervisor of the Coronado National Forest. We also took part in a demonstration at a public hearing on the issue. Our next action, on September 23, will be a theatrical demonstration against the Forest Service and Steward Observatory — the two main culprits on this issue.

To pressure officials to close the Douglas smelter, EF! joined GASP (Groups Against Smelter Pollution) in a demonstration outside the headquarters of the Arizona Department of Health Services — the state agency responsible for allowing Phelps-Dodge to violate Clean Air Act guidelines. Our next action will be a demonstration at the Douglas smelter with GASP on September 21. We hope then to help organize a small national strategy-making conference on acid rain, to be followed by uncommonly imaginative nationwide demonstrations against acid rain. (Any EF!er willing to help on acid rain organizing, please contact us in Tucson.)

To combat Energy Fuels Nuclear's proposal for a Grand Canyon uranium mine, we held a day of street theatre and leaflet distributing in and near

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Jimmy G. warning tourists of danger. Photo by Dan Dagget.

TEXAS WILDERNESS LOGGING CONTINUES DESPITE PROTESTS

By Coyote

Earth First! protests logging in Texas Wilderness Areas.

The US Forest Service has issued its Land & Resources Management Plan (and accompanying DEIS) for the National Forests in Texas. It is safe to say that this Plan is a disgrace in the eyes of everyone except the timber industry. The entire National Forest is slated for even-aged "management" (i.e. clearcutting) during the next fifty years. Rotation ages will be reduced, in some cases to forty years. The Plan looks as if the timber companies wrote the document. Earth First! and other Texas environmental groups are preparing voluminous statements in opposition. The public comment deadline is October 17, although it will likely be extended.

Earth First! has been active this summer in bringing attention to the shoddy land management practices of the Texas Freddies. Largely in response to the logging of trees in Wilderness Areas, great news media support of Texas Earth First! activities has occurred. It is hoped that the Forest Plan will draw similar publicity.

In May, the Forest Service co-sponsored a "Wilderness Management Symposium" with The Wilderness Society in Nacodoches, Texas, in the heart of the East Texas forests. Earth First! was there, too, demonstrating against the logging of hundreds (now thousands) of acres of *designated* Wilderness in Texas and Louisiana. Forty people protested at the Symposium — many wearing animal costumes of such forest luminaries as Woodsy Owl (give a hoot, don't pollute), a giant Turkey (representing the Forest Supervisor), a Pine Beetle (the critter who is supposedly responsible for the logging), Bugs Bunny, Smokey the Bear, and a cameo appearance by our old eco-killer friend, Ronald Reagan. The Freddies were terribly embarassed, coming out to yell at us for leaving Silent Agitators in the restroom of the Ramada Inn, where the Symposium was held.

The proceedings had to be stopped several times during the three-day event due to the terrible din of air horns being blown by passing truckers in response to the signs held by our rowdy agitators: "Honk for Wilderness," "Save the Pine Beetle," and "We Had to Cut Down the Forest to Save the Trees,

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EARTH FIRST!

NO COMPROMISE IN THE DEFENSE OF MOTHER EARTH!

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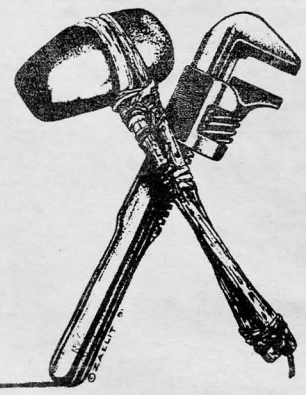
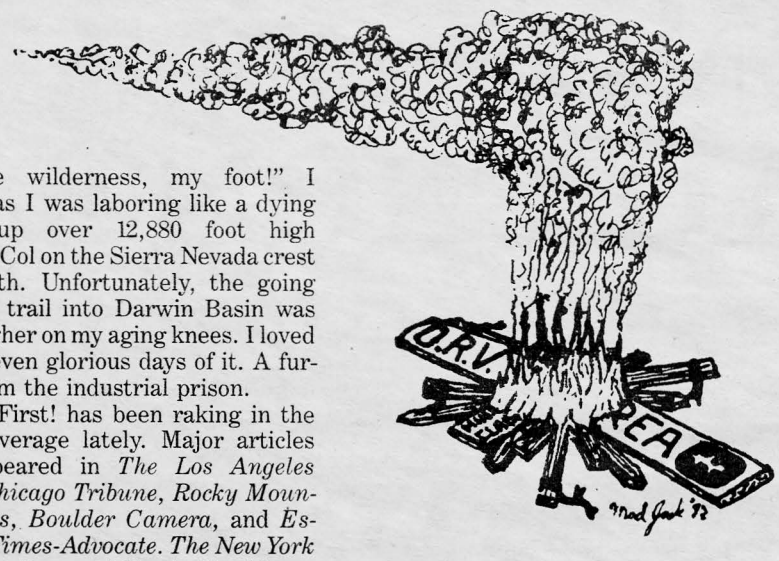


Around the Campfire



"Gentle wilderness, my foot!" I thought as I was laboring like a dying buffalo up over 12,880 foot high Lamarck Col on the Sierra Nevada crest last month. Unfortunately, the going down off trail into Darwin Basin was even tougher on my aging knees. I loved it. All eleven glorious days of it. A furlough from the industrial prison.

Earth First! has been raking in the media coverage lately. Major articles have appeared in *The Los Angeles Times*, *Chicago Tribune*, *Rocky Mountain News*, *Boulder Camera*, and *Escondido Times-Advocate*. *The New York Times* has discussed Earth First! in articles on the Yellowstone Grizzly and uranium mining at the Grand Canyon. The *Chicago Tribune* article was reprinted in a number of other newspapers. Quite a few papers ran brief articles or photographs of the Oregon tree sitters this summer. We are getting this media attention because YOU are doing something out there — something dramatic, something effective, something that can reach the American public.

Our emphasis this issue is on the rehabilitation of Wilderness and visionary proposals for Big Wilderness. Reed Noss writes about Florida, R.F. Mueller about potential large preserves in the Appalachians, and I offer proposals for the extraordinary BLM lands of Utah and for my old stomping grounds — the Gila in New Mexico. In addition, Earth First!ers in Juneau have devised an International Wilderness Preserve proposal for the Stikine River area in Alaska and British Columbia of about 20 million acres. Whew! Now, there's a wilderness!

Can anglo environmentalists and Indians work together? That's always been questionable. But can Earth First! and Indians work together? I hope so. David Seals of the Black Hills Alliance discusses this in what I think is a very important article in this issue. I would like to see a natural and honest working together between Earth First! and Indians — in mutual respect, without guilt, and with a firm commitment to Earth. My tribal ancestors in northern Europe were conquered by Middle Eastern/Greek/Roman "Western" Civilization one thousand years ago. We may just have the same enemy.

This year's campaign in the Cathedral Forests of Oregon is winding down. During the fall and winter, we hope to bring you some analytic articles on the victories, defeats — and lessons in the Big Trees.

Finally, thanks very much for your splendid response to the plea for contributions to Oregon Earth First!, Montana Earth First!, the Earth First! Foundation, and the Howie Wolke Legal Defense Fund. All of you who sent in money accomplished much good.

See you on the trail. The aspens should be in fine color in the high country of the Blue and Gila in early October.

-Dave Foreman

SCHEDULE

***Earth First! The Radical Environmental Journal* is published 8 times a year on the old pagan European nature holidays: Samhain (November 1), Yule (December 21 or 22), Brigid (February 2), Eostar (March 21 or 22), Beltane (May 1), Litha (August 1 or 22), Lughnasadh (August 1), and Mabon (September 21 or 22). Deadlines for articles are three weeks before the cover date (October 10, December 1, January 10, March 1, April 10, June 1, July 10, and September 1). The newspaper is mailed 3rd class on the cover date. First Class delivery is available for $5 extra a year. Airmail delivery overseas is available for $10 extra a year.**

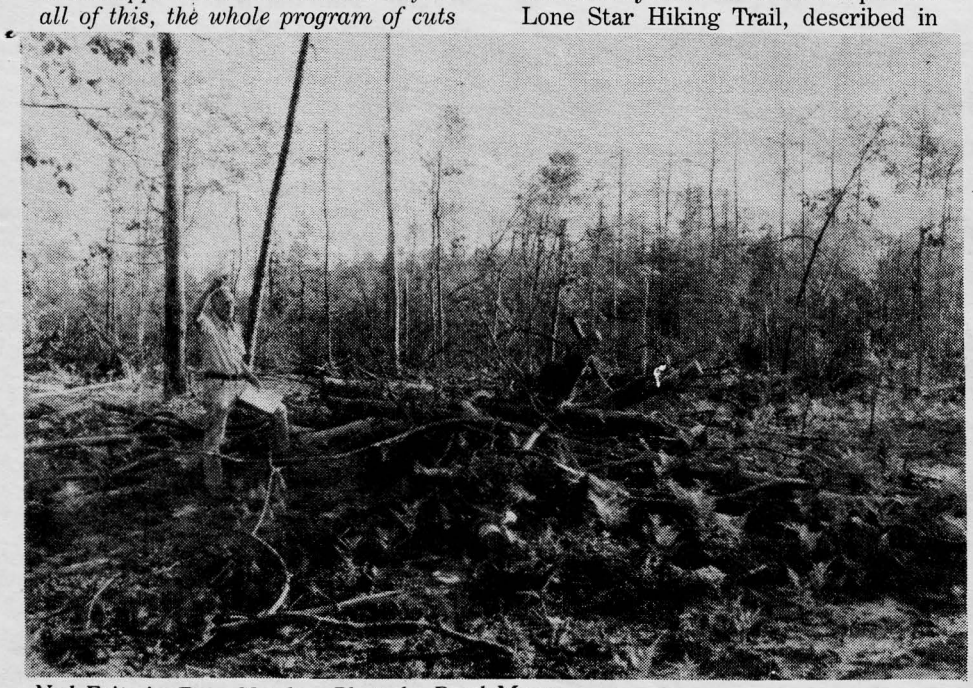
GUEST EDITORIAL
THE FOUR NOTCH IS DEAD, LONG LIVE THE FOUR NOTCH!

By Ned Fritz

Editor's note: In December, Earth First! broke the disgusting story of Forest Service pine beetle cuts in a newly designated Wilderness Area in East Texas. In spite of demonstrations by Texas Earth First!ers, and a lawsuit by the Texas Committee on Natural Resources, The Wilderness Society and Sierra Club, not yet scheduled for final trial, the Forest Service has accelerated its cuttings — 121 between June 4 and August 7. On August 4, the Sierra Club and Wilderness Society won an injunction against the Forest Service for similar cuts in Louisiana, Arkansas and Mississippi Wilderness Areas. Before all of this, the whole program of cuts to "control" beetles in wilderness-type areas began in the old Four-Notch Forest. Prominent Texas wilderness leader and founder of the Texas Committee on Natural Resources, Ned Fritz, here comments on what has become of the Four Notch.

The Force Service has launched its final assault on the hardened carcass of what was once a beautiful Wilderness Further Planning Area — the Four Notch, in the Sam Houston National Forest, Texas.

On July 19 and 25, the Forcers solicited bids for building four permanent roads through the large area formerly encircled by the Four Notch Loop of the Lone Star Hiking Trail, described in two chapters of my book *Sterile Forest*.



Ned Fritz in Four Notch. Photo by Brad Moore.

There is no point in opposing the road-building. The Force Service has already demolished the Four Notch by cutting 4000 acres of healthy, as well as infested, pines in a disastrous two-year campaign to control the Southern Pine Beetle. They did not leave a merchantable pine uncut. They sold them all. In the process they mashed and mangled the hardwoods and other vegetation so badly that they advertised portions of the area for shearing and windrowing, the final step of a clearcut before planting rows of pines. And yet, though oft-rebutted, they continue in Hitlerian style to cite the Four Notch as an example of what damage the beetle can inflict if not "treated" properly.

The Farce Service has won its unholy war against our first big Wilderness objective in Texas, the Four Notch — the citadel which we had protected through a 1976 injunction and a long RARE II struggle. We succeeded in saving it from the frontal attack of acknowledged clearcutting. In spite of diligent effort, we failed to protect it from the sly and deceitful campaign of "controlling" the "vicious" beetle. The Farce Service failed to prevent the beetle from spreading and multiplying. What do the Freddies care — they sold the trees and defeated our wilderness proposal.

The 90-year old pines of the Four Notch are gone, and with them the Southern tway-blade orchids of March, the Woodcock, Parula warbler, and Chuck-Wills-Widow nests of April, the shady oaks and hickories of summer, the Crane-fly orchids of August, the Nodding ladies-tress orchids of November, the champion Arrowood and Carolina buckthorn trees, and all the rest of the

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Earth First! The Radical Environmental Journal is an independent publication within the broad Earth First! movement. Entire contents are copyrighted 1985, but we are pleased to allow reprints if credit is given. *Earth First!* is a forum for the militant environmental movement. Responsibility rests with the individual authors and correspondents.

Although we do not accept the authority of the hierarchical state, nothing herein is intended to run us afoul of its police power. *Agents provocateurs* will be dealt with by the Grizzly Defense League on the Mirror Plateau.

Contributions are welcomed and should be typed or carefully printed, *double spaced*, and sent with an SASE if return is requested. Art or photographs (black & white prints preferred, color prints or slides OK) are eagerly sought to illustrate articles and essays. They will be returned if requested. No payment is offered except for extra copies of the issue.

All material should be sent to Earth First!, PO Box 5871, Tucson, AZ 85703, except for poetry which should go to Art Goodtimes, Box 1008, Telluride, CO 81435.

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C/o FOE 1045 Sansome St, San Francisco, CA 94111 (415)433-7373: Rainforest Action & Information Network; Correspondence with Randy Hayes or Mike Roselle.

POB 1008, Telluride, Colorado 81435 (303)728-4301: Poetry, Correspondence with Art Goodtimes.

Please send any newspaper clippings mentioning Earth First! or dealing with subjects of interest to us at POB 5871, Tucson, AZ 85703. Clippings about monkeywrenching of any kind would be appreciated. Thank you!

The Post Office does not forward 3rd Class Mail but they do charge us 30 cents apiece to send us change of address information. Please send us your change of address immediately so we can send $ where the action is instead of to the Post Office. Some people using clever aliases are not receiving their copies of *Earth First!*. Be sure to notify your mailman that "Attila the Hun" or "The Animal" receives mail at your address.

Letters to the Editor

Letters to the editor are welcomed. Lengthy letters may be edited for space requirement. Letters should be typed or carefully printed and double-spaced, using only one side of a sheet of paper. Be sure to indicate if you want your name and location to appear or if you wish to remain anonymous. Send letters to POB 5871, Tucson, AZ 85703.

Dear *EF!*

I'd like to let your readers know that my share of the royalties from all copies of *Resist Much, Obey Little: Some Notes on Edward Abbey* (Dream Garden Press, 1985) sold through EF! will go to EF! itself.

Keep up the good work.

Gregory McNamee

Dear *EF!* Only my hectic schedule and disorganized brain would allow a catastrophe like this to occur. Of course I want to keep getting the best nationally read radical environmental journal! Here's my contribution with a small bonus for beers for the crew or whatever.

A minor(?) bone to pick . . . I would like to see more news about east of the Mississippi happenings. What about regional editors or something? Certainly you must have a substantial number of your subscribers out here. The Litha edition of *EF!* contained only one short article concerning Walden Pond, the highly symbolic but tiny pond of Thoreau's solitary escapes. You've got your Costa Rica, Australia, Japan, Rainforest etc., editors; why not midwest, northeast, southeast, or just eastern U.S. editor?

Otherwise, my congratulations on your high quality, no compromise writing, poetry, and graphics. Keep up the good work for our Mother Earth and all the future generations of her offspring.

In Peace,

Gary Gyekis

Dear Gary,

All of our writers and editors are volunteer. We'll gladly consider any articles submitted about the East.

-SFB

Hi,

This is to say I think the newspaper is wonderful and that EF! is the most politically/ecologically/spiritually inspiring movement I've ever encountered. Please start my subscription with the Lughnasadh issue.

C.G.

Dear Dave,

I just returned from a week on Mt. Shasta. Shasta has inspired several fascinating cults, but the most destructive cult on the mountain at the present time is the USFS — building roads, planning ski resorts and logging red fir.

Happy trails,

Bill Devall

Dear SFB,

Them thar wollie growers got thar 1080 pisen back on the range agen. We ain't got back to normal since they got shut down in 1972. The paper sez Danial J. Murphy, whots the Director of Govermint Affairs fer the National Woolgrowers Association, sezs they are losin 75 million a year to coyotes out of about 1 billion. Now fer a feller whots got to take off his moccisins to count to 20, thet do seem a bit stretched. If'n Ah were in thet busniss, Ah think Ah would take to sellin used pickups. Fer 75 million dollars they could hire a lot of sheephearders and guard dogs.

They figger on hangin a 1080 coller on a sheep or goat, cause thets whar the coyote is supposed to bite. Now, the coyote is a lot smarter than all the wollie growers and polyticians put together. So, next thing, Ah recon they'll be a makin 1080 suppositories.

If'n it warent so serious, Ah could laugh myself into the grave readin the so-called regulations. Like only usin collers whar they expect coyotes to kill livestock. Recon thets somewhar between San Francisco and New York City.

The Navajo called him "God's Dog" an he's been here a lot longer than them dang cows and sheep. Real Americans used ter eat buffler, the animal thets supposed to live here and servive in the winter by hisself. Instead we brung in sheep and cows what need tendin. The beef is so full of ferrin stuff yew don't know whot it'll do to you. Thar aint nobody whot likes thet greasy lamb fer a meal thet Ah knows of.

Ah jist wonder whot the polypropolyne growers association does to protect thar interests. Mabbe they raise *Canis latrans*.

Wyanokie Al's pal,

John Duke

Dear *EF!*,

Well I just left the Rendezvous, an event that gave me my first real feel for this here movement. I'm not sure whether it was the commitment toward change I felt from Earth First!ers (I look forward to the day I again get to hear Jasper Carleton speak — that man brought tears to my eyes and fury to my soul); or the fact that I constantly met smiling, warm, happy people (there must be something to that); or the realization that Earth First! is indeed on "the cutting edge" of the wilderness preservation movement, but I do know that as a result of my being there I'm ready to give my body and soul to this much needed movement.

Lots of things happened up there on the Uncompahgre Plateau that are worth mentioning, but that is for the next Journal to do. However, I did have one experience — and resulting notion — that seemed worthy of sharing with Earth First! as a whole. On Thursday evening, the first of two Deep Ecology workshops was held. At its conclusion, a human circle was formed for a time of silence and reflection. While in the circle, a woman across the way mentioned that it was the Fourth of July; traditionally known as Independence Day. Quick to follow was a statement that Earth First!'s endeavor was a truly patriotic one; the preserving of our country's (and world's) natural systems. It was then proposed — probably inspired by the foundations of "Deep Ecology" — that we ought to call this day "Inter-dependence" Day instead.

Well all this creative thinking got me mighty excited, and in dwelling upon it since then it seems EF! could adopt (whether formally or informally) this notion of July 4th as Inter-dependence Day. Besides isn't that traditionally when the tribal gathering is held; a time to celebrate the connectedness and its ensuing movement?

Tom Skeele

Yosemite, CA

Editor, *Earth First!*

I managed to get to two days of the R.R.R. in Colorado Fri. and Sat. arriving late because of car trouble. And that map of directions was horrible. To send people to Nucla was an utter mistake.

First, a question; does the Rendezvous really have to be so unorganized as to make it well nigh impossible to know what is going on and when? Still, the groups that I did get to had lots of dedicated and knowledgeable deep ecology experts and I enjoyed listening to them.

I am in almost total agreement with this Movement's philosophy of no compromise. On the other hand, all this talking about monkeywrenching, protests, spiking, and all the other legal and illegal activities will result, I am afraid, with only isolated and short term effects, and, ultimately will not stop the despoilers of our Earth. This doesn't mean I do not support these activities, as anything that will even slow down these utterly stupid actions has some benefit.

The mostly white, young people at this Rendezvous were fervent in their devotion to the cause of saving the natural environment, but unfortunately, in my opinion, the symptoms but not the disease were being attacked. And to me, the disease is the political system in this country. Because of our influence in the world that disease effects the entire world.

You and I and the millions like us have absolutely no representation in the current political system. It is a sham! If the people had real representation, I doubt if we would have to worry about destruction of grizzly bear habitat, acid rain fallout, rainforest destruction, clear cutting, and all the other concerns of the Earth First! movement.

So, what would I advocate? To me, the single most important step to begin the cleansing of the political process is to put a limit of 2 terms in any political office, the same as the Presidency. This should apply to all political offices on the federal, state, and local levels. We might lose a few friends as a result, but think of all the nitwits and jackasses who are the real enemies of the environment who would be eliminated. Another worthwhile reform, but one more difficult because of its Constitutional problem, would be to put a limitation on the number of lawyers who could serve in any legislative body at the same time. This profession is mainly just flunkies and lackeys for the moneyed interests who run this country. Any cutting down of their numbers could not help but benefit the vast majority of the people.

Without political reform, we are all, like Don Quixote, tilting at windmills.

Sincerely,

Donald Ash

Lake Elsinore, CA

Dear *Earth First!*

It is of vital importance to get copies of *Sacred Cows at the Public Trough* out to as many persons as possible. Most important, I feel, are some "professionals" or otherwise leading conservationists! I am shocked as to how "soft" most — if not all — of them are on ranchers and grazing (though many of them confess that their softness is only political reality and a desire to see BLM wilderness bills as big as possible).

However, almost all seem to have already given in on allowing Colorado Forestry wilderness "grazing language" to be repeated *ad nauseam* in each and every upcoming BLM wilderness bill! First of all, this is unnecessary as the original 1964 Wilderness Bill unfortunately makes it quite clear that grazing shall be allowed by law. Secondly, repeating the Colorado Forest bill language in every BLM wilderness bill will make it all that much more difficult to eventually get that plague of cows and sheep out of our *intended* natural areas (national parks, refuges, and, yes, wilderness areas!).

Cows and sheep have been immensely destructive to the native vegetation, stream banks, water quality, and wildlife of the West. Please, read Denzel & Nancy Ferguson's *Sacred Cows at the Public Trough* for a good and highly readable introduction to the power of livestock to destroy much of the West.

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natural ecosystem.

Never to return.

But this wild world has not died in vain.

"From these honored dead we take increased devotion . . . ."

As I stated at the Fourth Annual Pow Wow in the Four Notch on April 9, 1983:

We are grateful to the majestic wild communities of this forest around us, the Four Notch. Unknowingly these sturdy plants and all the animal life among them have become symbols of resistance. Their struggle for survival from the monoculture practices of the Forest Service has inspired us to struggle all the harder to save examples of our natural heritage, to obtain wilderness designation, if not for the Four Notch, at least for other areas. If the Forest Service succeeds, in its intent to wrest the Four Notch from the people's use, by devastating it and planting pines, this forest will still live on in our souls and will inspire us to greater efforts. The Four Notch will never die!

Three months later, with great fanfare, the deForest Service launched the beetle-cutting program which ruined the area for generations. But, even though we had little apparent chance for victory, we fought for other wildernesses. After one more year, Congress passed the East Texas Wilderness Act. It lacked the 6200 acre Four Notch, but included five significant areas north and south of it.

And the spirit of the Four Notch still lives on. We will fight the butchers of the Four Notch in every remaining potential wilderness and in every stand of National Forest throughout the land. Let the lesson of the Four Notch live forever! Fight the butchers of our environment!

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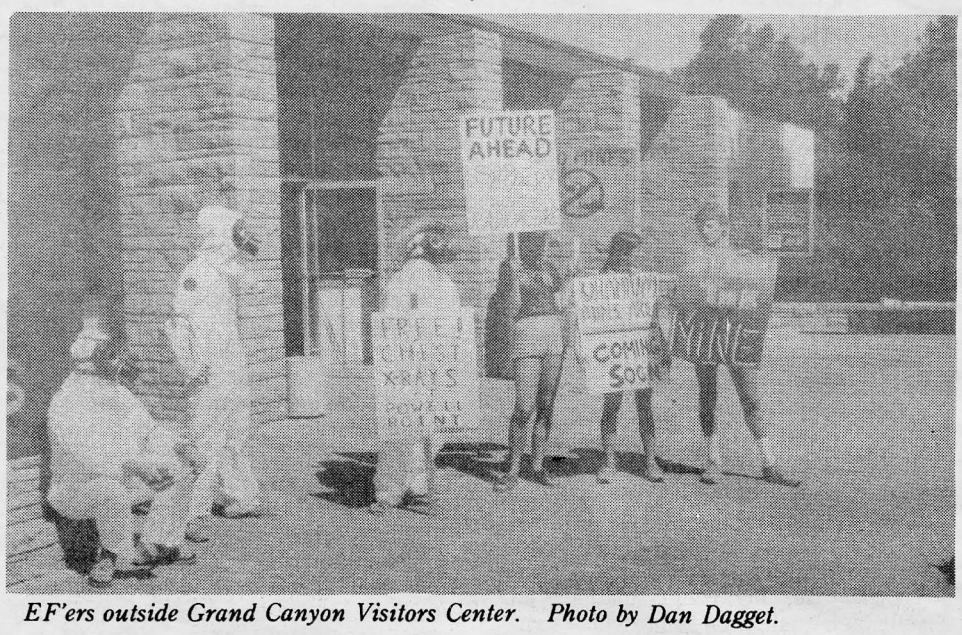
GRAND CANYON URANIUM MINE PROTESTED

By Mary Sojourner



EF'ers outside Grand Canyon Visitors Center. Photo by Dan Dagget.

Labor Day weekend south of the Grand Canyon . . . indigo thunder-clouds rumbled in mid-afternoon, sun-flowers blazed along Kaibab Forest Service roads, the Tusayan Ranger Station's parking lot was packed with Coconino Sheriff, Department of Public Saftey, Forest Service and Grand Canyon Park Service law enforcement vehicles, as Dave Foreman and Nancy Morton greeted me late Friday afternoon. We were to meet Ranger Wayne Patterson, who would guide us to our camp-site, where 25-30 Earth First!ers, Flagstaff Canyon Under Siege organizers, an undercover agent, Rainbow Family and just plain folks would camp together, planning and carrying out a series of "educational demonstrations." (We hadn't planned on the agent, but he somewhat lackadaisacally leafletted an entire day, so we couldn't complain!)

Wayne met us at the front desk, looking faintly worried. He said that some of the area law enforcement people wanted to meet with us, no big deal, just to learn of our plans. I expected we'd meet 3-4 officers . . . I was wrong.

After my heart stopped its fibrillations, 13 beige shirts, 26 ice-blue eyes, 13 pairs of shades on, off and being slowly twirled in large hands . . . I told them our plans: leafletting at 3 permit-approved locations in the Park; some signs and demonstrators in radiation suits at the Park boundary and the turn-off to Energy Fuels Nuclear, Inc.'s proposed Tusayan uranium mine-site; posters and leaflets in front of the Canyon tourist airflight companies in the town of Tusayan. The gentlemen seemed a little nervous. I reminded myself to keep breathing and Dave told them we don't mix covert and overt activities. Once we straightened out the difference between overt and covert [a subtle difference which those of us not in the Reagan administration or the CIA often fail to understand], they seemed to relax. One guy bought a subscription to the EF! journal. Somebody said the local chopper companies were not happy about our presence . . . rumors of red-neck vigilante squads . . . businessmen assaulting us with floppy disks. We considered ourselves forewarned.

We agreed to the Park Service's request to pack it in and out, and provide that critical tool of desperate eco-revolutionaries — a porta-potty (ours was named Three-Mile Island). One of our group later commented that it was wise they had insisted on the porta-potty, since urine biodegrades so much more slowly than uranium tailings.

Saturday morning, we were on the flagstone entrances to the Grand Canyon Visitor Center, Babbitt's, and Yavapei gift shop by 9 AM, some of us in radiation suits, others disguised as environmentalists and PTA presidents. We handed out flyers, 1800 to adults, 600 to kids. Prima Terrae, from Flagstaff, had designed a kids' coloring flyer that shamelessly played on their childish sympathies for the forest critters . . . "You can help Ranger Marks and Ranger Lund protect your Forest Friends from too many helicopters and ore trucks . . ." For their parents, we pointed out the dangers of Energy Fuels Nuclear's high-grade uranium mine proposal; how the opening of this mine, just 13 miles south of the Grand Canyon on Kaibab National Forest land would open both the North and South Rims of Grand Canyon to a proliferation of uranium mines. We painted a grim picture of the Grand Canyon area after that cancer began to spread over Mother Earth: 20-ton ore trucks tearing through elk, deer and wild turkey habitat; the potential for ore-spills along the East entrance road to the Canyon, over the Little Colorado, through the Navajo reservation, on roads with no shoulders and bright yellow Flash Flood signs. We asked tourists to imagine the shattering of the forest silence by chaos of men and machines.

Mid-morning, I was called into the Park Ranger's office. We had succeeded too well. All 6'4" of Jimmy G., terrifying in a white radiation suit and gas mask, had been posted at the Park boundary, behind one of the magnificent highway signs, which warned, "CAUTION: BLOWING URANIUM DUST." Tourists, shocked by this harsh message from the future, were turning away from the Park. We wondered whether tourists would make the connection between their present fear and future danger. To satisfy the Ranger, we posted an additional sign, explaining it was "demonstration only."

Most of the tourists accepted our leaflets . . . one old guy yelled over his shoulder that we need uranium to fuel the ships that would protect us from domination by the dictator Soviet Union. Two old women in hiking shorts patted me on the arm and told me they were proud to meet us. Our bear rolled on its back, tickled kids, and drooled conspicuously when members of a certain gender sashayed by. We talked ourselves hoarse. Some of us rode the shuttle, talking with people; others roamed the outskirts of the abandoned South Rim Orphan Uranium Mine with a geiger counter, warning hikers which rocks were the hottest. The police got bored and went away. The undercover agent flirted half-heartedly with some women in our group, got discouraged, and slipped away.

Park Superintendent Richard Marks talked with us and promised to respond to any letters. He told Dan that EFN was proposing an additional North Rim mine site, 200 yards from the North Rim Park border and 500 yards from the rim. Nobody knew when the Forest Service Environmental Impact Statement on the South rim mine would be ready. We thought of how careful we had been to get our permits in order and how different protecting Mother Earth would be if the other side had to be as careful. We had sent out 30 press releases. I had assumed that Grand(mother) Canyon was nationally beloved and would be her own best public relations agent. Wrong. Our press conference was ignored by the *Arizona Daily Sun* and *Arizona Republic*, the 2 largest papers in the state. *The NY Times*, *Flagstaff Times*, *Earth First!*, *Grand Canyon News* and a German free-lance journalist were with us. I thank them. Of course, had we done illegal or outrageous, thereby giving The Average American ammo to shoot us down as a bunch of crazed radicals, the Press would have been there.

Sunday morning, we hit the pavement in the town of Tusayan, in front of the airflight companies, to educate people about the growing problem of airflights over and in the Canyon. Dennis had written a fact-sheet flyer, neatly pulling together many of the present violations and dangers: "Aircraft in the Canyon violate Federal Law and Park regulations (Public Laws 95-586, 88-577, etc.). Aircraft noise threatens wildlife, including rare Bighorn sheep and rare Peregrine falcons. Helicopter propeller vibrations are NOT in harmony with the structure of the mortar in centuries old Anasazi Canyon ruins. Aircraft are not approved, licensed or regulated in any way by the Park Service, unlike all other activities in National Parks. There are view-sites along the rim where as many as one flight per 80 seconds have been logged!"

Realizing that traffic was limited and that we weren't getting a chance to really talk with people, we moved back to the Visitor Canter and Babbitt's sites and leafletted again. There we handed out nearly a thousand flyers and found people more than eager to listen.

Leafletting was an educational experience. We learned that most of the tourists had no idea that the Canyon was under siege. When they learned, they were upset. We leafletted until the rain drove us off, bringing an end to our weekend of protests.

We will continue to leaflet at the Canyon throughout the fall. The bear will be there; join us. For more information on Canyon Under Siege Society activities, write CUSS, c/o Sojourner, Oak Creek Star Rte, Box 14, Flagstaff, AZ 86001. (Any undercover cops are welcome to drop in to our meetings. However, you will be eliminated from any strategy-planning sessions; these occur in laundromats, dark cafes, etc. You will be expected to paint posters and clean up.)

Photo by Ted Fuentes-Williams.

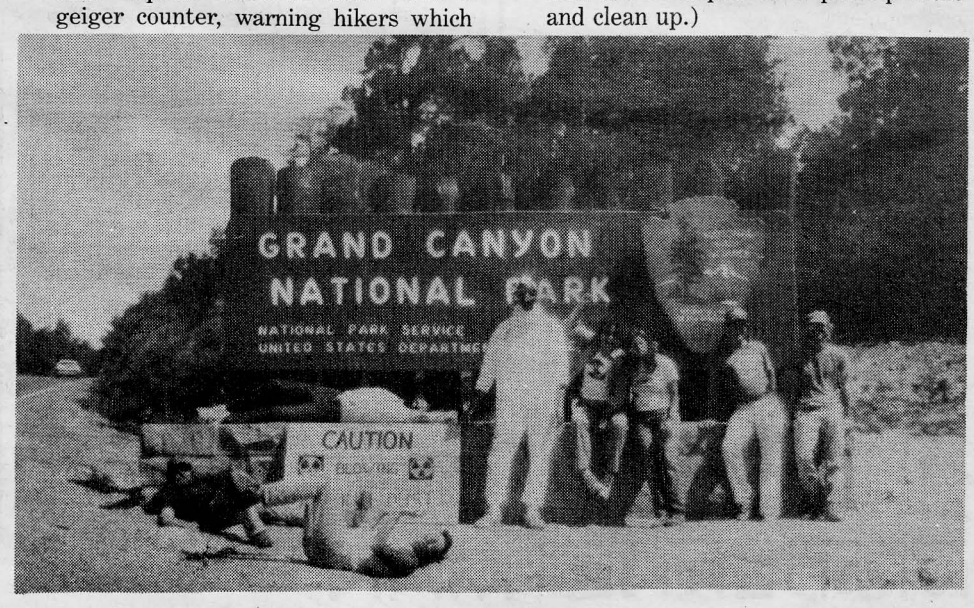
ARIZONA (Cont)

Grand Canyon Village. The following day we performed similar actions aimed at aircraft abuse of the Canyon. Also 5 "Canyon Commandos" did a sneak attack against the helicopter businesses by hanging banners of protest near Anasazi ruins along the north rim. (See separate article in this paper.) These 5 EF!ers then reconnoitered points on the north rim of Grand Canyon. They found that logging is ravaging Kaibab Forest land right up to the edge of the canyon and that it is probably too late for any legal means of protest to stop this little-known desecration of America's grandest canyon.

AZ EF! has not actively fought CAP (the Central Arizona Project), because with our limited resources it seems wiser to focus on issues on which we have a greater chance. Nor have many of us engaged ourselves deeply in battle against the Palo Verde nuclear plant. However, it appears increasingly probable, judging from repeated inexplicable mishaps at the nuclear plant, that one of our noble and decadent friends is sabotaging Palo Verde from the inside. S/he has made Palo Verde proponents appear as complete buffoons by creating small disturbances inside the plant which force it to shut down again and again.

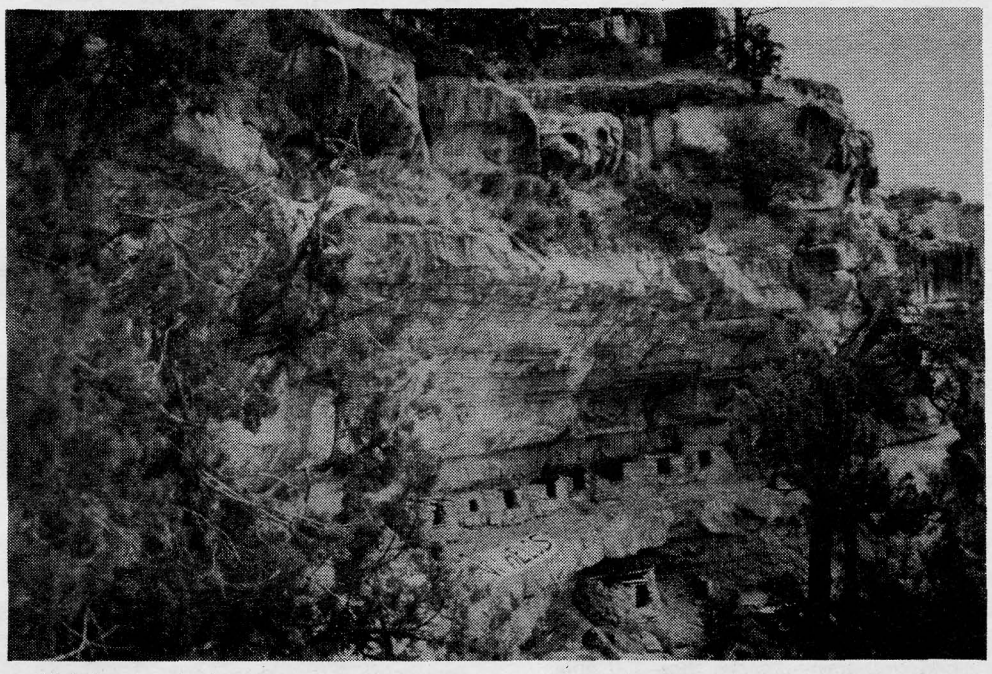
AZ EF! has been pushing for maximum preservation of all of the Coronado National Forest. In addition to our Mt. Graham Wilderness proposal, we submitted a proposal to preserve all of the Peloncillo Mountains in southeastern Arizona and New Mexico. Our proposals for Mt. Graham and the Peloncillos will carry much more clout if AZ EF!ers write letters in support of EF!'s 2 proposals for complete Wilderness protection. Send letters to Supervisor Robert Tippeconnic, 300 W Congress, Tucson, AZ 85701.

One final note: AZ EF! wishes to establish a phone tree for emergency eco-alerts. Please send us your name and number if you are willing to be on this phone tree.



"No Helicopters!" Say Canyon Commandos

By Ralph Porito



Note banner in lower center of photo.

Shortly after we crawled from our sleeping bags and watched the serene sunrise from the Grand Canyon's North Rim, a faint buzzing let us know that it was time to begin our work. For most of the Canyon Commandos this was the first trip to Point Sublime and it was hard for us to believe that such a quiet secluded place would be assaulted by continuous droves of helicopters. The noise made us angry and determined. We left for the Anasazi ruins that helicopters visit almost continuously. We intended to give helicopter companies and the Park Service a message of how angry we were. As we bushwacked toward the ruins we saw several groups of 3 or 4 helicopters at a time skimming the cliff sides far below the rim and then shooting over Point Sublime, clearly against even the Park Service's meager regulations. When we arrived at the ruins there was a rare lull in aircraft so we quickly put up 2 banners, being extremely careful not to touch the ruins. One banner, saying "NO HELOS" in big letters, went just in front of a major Anasazi structure (without touching it), and the other, saying "STOP THE NOISE," was suspended 20 feet above. (We would have loved to have seen some overweight ranger try to get that one down.) Before we got the 2nd one secured, another drove of choppers rounded the point and descended upon us. We jumped under the nearest tree but they hung right above us, clearly perturbed at the banners and sure we were nearby. At that moment we could imagine what it must be like for an El Salvadoran peasant. When the helicopters left, we scrambled back up to the rim. We waited and watched, expecting the Park Service helicopter to come, but it never did. The number of commercial flights dropped from more than one per minute to only a few during the remainder of the morning. Perhaps our display and simultaneous leafletting on the South Rim were getting our message across that we want aircraft kept out of the Canyon.

MT. GRAHAM — OPPOSITION TO SCOPE BUILDS

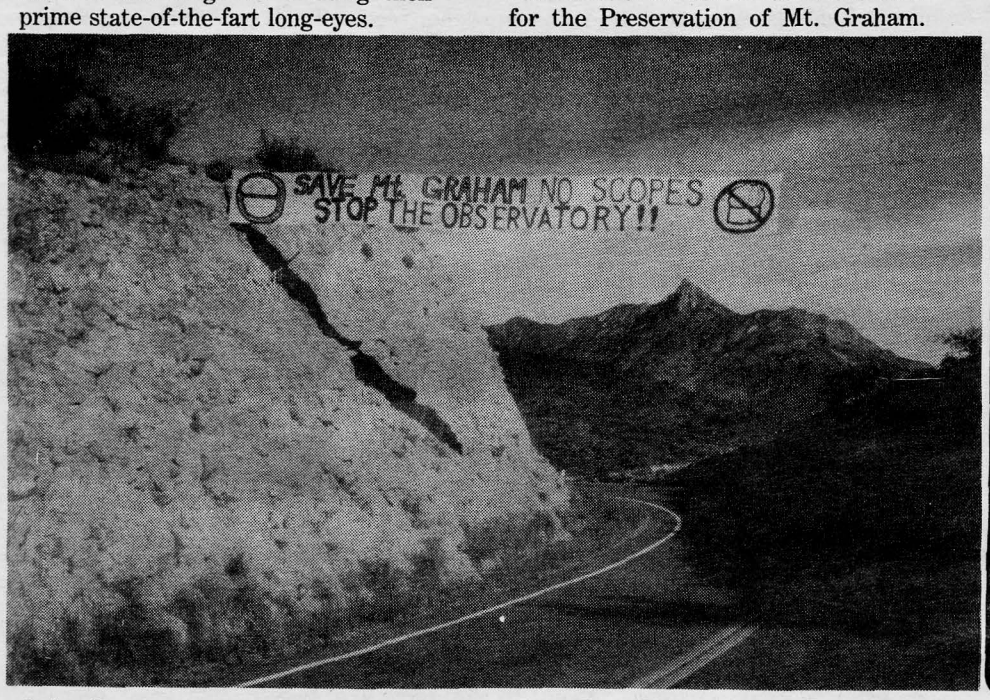
By Ursa Power

In a swift and surprise move, unknown ecoteurs held a ribbon-cutting ceremony atop Hawk Peak in the threatened Pinaleno Mountains of southeastern Arizona sometime in August. Approximately 40 trees on the pristine summit had been tagged with red and yellow ribbons as survey markers for the proposed Steward Observatory development. The red plastic ribbons designated where one or more giant telescopes were slated for implacement, and the yellow ribbons indicated the path of a proposed new spur road in the primitive area. All of the markers were removed. It is not known if any spiking occurred as a preventive measure against felling any trees in the designated Experimental Forest on Hawk Peak. The star-gazers now declare Hawk Peak to be a superior site to High Peak and other spots along the crest of the range for locating their prime state-of-the-fart long-eyes.

This action came soon after news that an ancient 12th century Mimbres culture religious shrine had been rediscovered on Hawk Peak. It is rumored that the person or persons responsible for the plastic-slashing are members of the rugged XX MEN, a mysterious strike force of ruthless, subalpine raiders bent on defending Mt. Graham against the abominable desecration by the spineless, story-shifting scumbags of the Steward Observatory.

Another recent action attributed to the XX MEN was the hoisting of an enormous banner proclaiming opposition to the observatory which was stretched across the Swift Trail at the base of Mt. Graham on Labor Day weekend. It definitely got the message across to users of the mountain and the Freddies how many of us feel about the repulsive project.

Labor Day weekend also saw the blanketing of Mt. Graham by various representatives of the conservative Coalition for the Preservation of Mt. Graham.



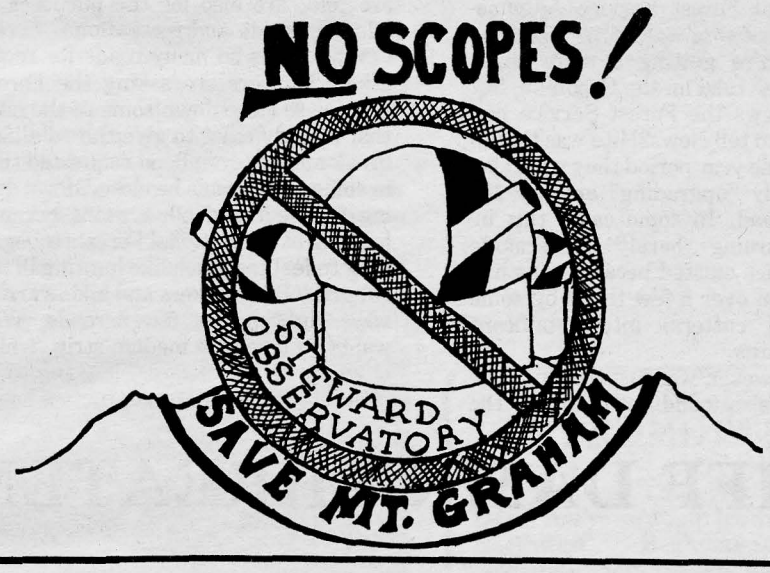
Labor Day banner on Mt. Graham

Mail-in flyers addressed to the Forest Service were distributed to campers and picnickers by a hodge-podge of all types, including Yuppies, rednecks, and an assortment of other polite (but earnest) wimps. The flyers entreated everyone to write:

Mr. Robert Tippeconnic
Forest Supervisor
Coronado National Forest
300 W Congress
Tucson, AZ 85701

and vehemently object to the senseless and unconscionable rape of Mt. Graham by the University of Arizona's Steward Observatory. You can do the same if you think it will help. If not, pick up your scissors and join the XX MEN at the next streamer party.

For background on the Mt. Graham issue, see the June 21, 1985, issue of EF!.



FOREMAN TO SPEAK AT CALIFORNIA WILDERNESS CONFERENCE

Earth First!'s Dave Foreman will be a featured speaker at the California Wilderness Conference, October 25-27, in Visalia, sponsored by the California Wilderness Coalition. This major conference (500 - 1000 people are expected) will also feature as speakers David Brower, Sen. Alan Cranston, and national leaders of the Sierra Club, Wilderness Society, and Audubon Society. Workshops, facilitated by national and California experts, will include Forest Planning, Using Radio & Television, Desert Wilderness, and Wild Rivers. Highlights will include multi-media presentations by Howard Wilshire and John Nakata, and the Ansel Adams Photographic Exhibit. There also will be an opportunity for California Earth First!ers to meet and brainstorm.

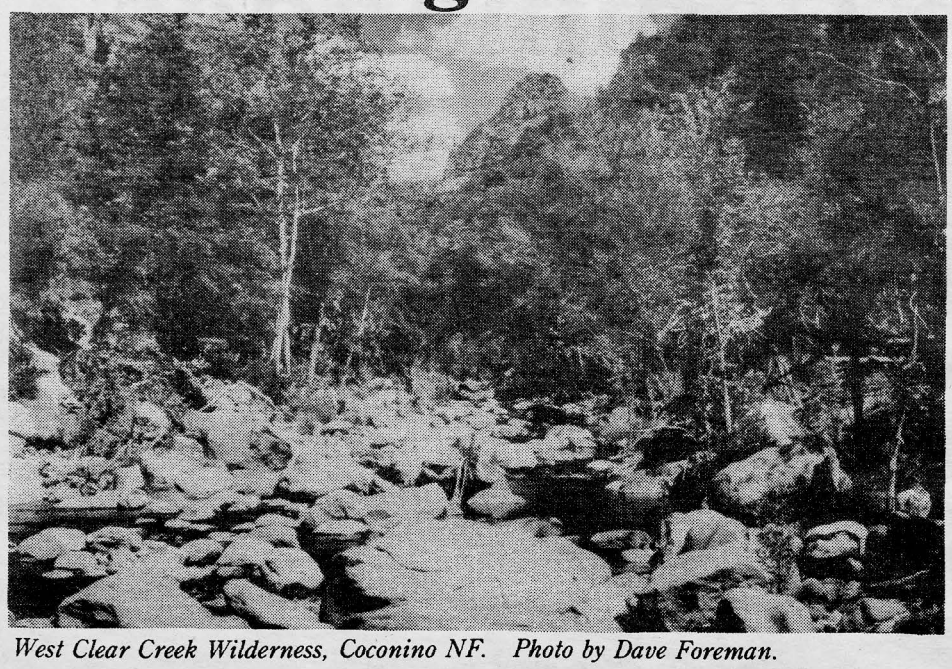
For information and to register, contact California Wilderness Coalition, POB 269, Porterville, CA 93258 or (209)784-4477 (Bob Barnes). If you would like to help staff the Earth First! booth, please contact John or Nancy at POB 5871, Tucson, AZ 85703 (602)622-1371.

This will be a major wilderness conference and will be an excellent opportunity for Earth First!ers to work with more moderate environmental groups in urging stronger action arising from a biocentric ethic. It will also be the best chance California Earth First!ers have had to get organized on National Forest and Desert Wilderness issues. See you there!

A ROAD IS A ROAD IS A ROAD
Freddie Subterfuge on the Coconino

Earth First! *has previously reported on the diabolical road-building program of the Forest Service's "Road Warriors" in previous issues. See especially Yule 1983 and Litha 1985. The following report, however, demonstrates just how sleazy and dishonest the Freddie Road Warriors are on the Coconino National Forest in Arizona. Investigate your local Freddies. Find out just how many miles of road they really are building. Let other folks know about it. Do something.*

By Dan Dagget



West Clear Creek Wilderness, Coconino NF. Photo by Dave Foreman.

A few weeks ago, while catching the late news on the idiot box here in Flagstaff, I was roused out of the stupor customarily induced by America's favorite opiate when I heard the head in the box refer to a controversy surrounding excessive roadbuilding in our National Forests. Located smack in the middle of the Coconino National Forest, our local channel, KNAZ, had approached those in charge of that agency's administration to find out just how much the aforementioned uproar had to do with the federal lands surrounding Flagstaff.

I was on the edge of my seat so as not to miss a rare opportunity to actually learn something relevant from the mass media. The story came across loud and clear. Northern Arizona had nothing to worry about. Nossiree, nothing like that was going on here in good old Flagstaff. No roadbuilding fanatics were out there working overtime to turn our National Forest into a graveled gridwork. For the upcoming year, there were a mere three miles of new road planned on the entire 2800 square miles of the Coconino National Forest.

Now, I've worked around issues of this sort long enough to know that what I had just heard sounded entirely too good to be true, so I did a little digging and found out that, well, it actually was true, but only in such a narrow and convoluted sense that the entire affair reeked of being an intentional distortion. The information that had been released looked like an attempt to cloud the issue and keep people off the backs of the local Forest Service Administrators.

Sure, we're getting a mere three miles of new road on the Coconino, but the real news the Forest Service had neglected to tell News2Nite was that in the same one year period they were also very quietly "upgrading" another 153 miles of road. In some cases this involved turning barely discernable tracks (which existed because they had been driven over a few times by some fuel wood cutters) into significant thoroughfares.

That, however, was just the tip of the iceberg. I also found out that over the last seven years, using this same ruse, Coconino National Forest road crews had transformed more than 750 miles of primitive roads, tracks, ways and virgin countryside into full blown forest highways. Next year they hope to give us 170 miles more. On the Coconino, the road density the Forest Service considers to be their goal is, in Ponderosa habitat, two miles of road for every square mile of area. They've already got more than that in some areas. In the pinyon-juniper, they're shooting for one mile of road for every single square mile of area.

Why so many roads? Well, of course, a lot of them provide industry access to timber sales. Charging roads off to a timber sale, however, increases the chance that that particular sale will lose money. At a time when the Forest Service is under heavy national pressure because it has lost so much money on its timber sales, the agency is doing everything it can to lower its overhead. This is the case on the Coconino where the timber managers assure us that their program is making money. The problem is solved by telling us that these roads are really intended to serve other purposes, too. These roads, we are told, are also for the purposes of administration and recreation.

Who needs so many roads for recreation? Hunters are asking the Forest Service to close down some of the ones that already exist to give the wildlife a break and it's even been requested that in some areas roads be closed down during the deer and elk seasons because hunting in our National Forests is beginning to feel too much like hunting in the suburbs. Backpackers and hikers are always fighting for fewer roads. Who wants to hike in a median strip, which is what the entire forest is going to be if the current rate of construction keeps up? Amazing as it may seem, the word is out that even some four wheelers are complaining that there are so damned many roads there's no decent, undisturbed country to tear up any more.

Well, what about administrative needs? Here too, roads cause more problems than they solve. More roads mean more access to the forest for illegal activities like unauthorized wood cutting and poaching as well as opening up more areas to fire danger from tossed cigarettes and deserted campfires. More roads to drive mean more roads to patrol and, therefore, more administrative headaches, not less.

The reason for this huge proliferation of roads on the National Forests is all too apparent when you consider the administration in charge both on the national as well as the local level. We all know how the Reagan Administration feels about roadless areas. This is apparent from its commitment to build 75,000 miles of new roads in those roadless areas that have not yet been protected as designated Wilderness, forever denying them the protection they deserve.

On the local level, a bare bones Wilderness Bill was passed for Forest Service lands here in Arizona in 1984. The word is that the administration of the Coconino National Forest feels that they "gave" enough to the tree huggers at that time, so they're out to make sure that the Wilderness issue here is settled once and for all. The way to do that is, you got it, build more roads. Reports have been in the wind ever since the passage of the '84 law that one area in the Coconino that wasn't included in the legislation even though it should have been, Hackberry Canyon, is going to fall to the 'dozer blade. Another such area, Jacks Canyon, is no doubt on the hit list too.

All these problems stem from the fact that the US Forest Service is so top heavy with timber cutters and road engineers, it's virtually unable to do anything but wreck the very resource it's supposed to be stewarding. On Arizona's National Forests, one entire person/year of work is put into the engineering and technical aspects of a typical timber sale. The ecological aspects get a mere five days. The ironic part of this whole scenario, of course, is that it can't even be said that this is justified on an economic basis. The US Forest Service is losing money while it pays its experts to squander our forests. We could put all of our National Forests on a more sound economic, as well as ecological, basis if we got rid of about half of the people who work for that agency and are involved only in road building and timber sales. They could then be replaced with others who know something about forests rather than just stumps.

The word's getting out, though. A subcommittee of the House Appropriations Committee cut more than $63.6 million from the Forest Service's proposed road construction budget for the next fiscal year. If this actually becomes law, it will probably have some effect on the number of new and "reconstructed" roads on the Coconino as well as the rest of the National Forest system. Forest Service officials say they are still unable to tell what will happen. In the meantime, road building on this Forest has been slowed just a little by a flat timber market as a result of which some areas that have been offered for sale have gone without buyers.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

You can help by firing off a letter to your member of Congress (House of Representatives, Washington, DC 20515) in support of the subcommittee's proposed cuts in the Forest Service road-building budget. Let them know you are aware of the shenanigans that are going on in the National Forests and that you want to see them stopped. Be especially forceful in pointing out that more attention needs to be paid to the biolgical aspects of forest management including the hiring of more field biologists. Don't forget to add a reminder that biologists are a lot more cost effective than those money squandering road engineers. Maybe this is another way we can use the Reagan budget cuts to work for something worthwhile. While you're at it, send a copy of your letter to The Hon. John Block, Secretary of Agriculture, Washington, DC. The Forest Service needs to know that we're on to their game.

Dan Dagget is conservation chair of the Plateau Group of the Sierra Club in Flagstaff, Arizona.

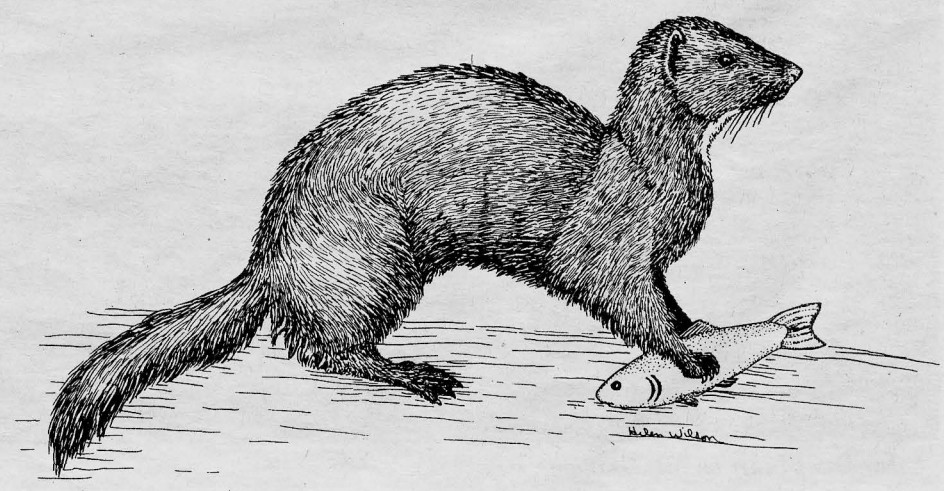
CLIFF DAMN THREATENS DESERT BALD EAGLES

The Rio Salado project proposed for Phoenix by the Rio Salado Development District is one of those disastrous projects which convince you that land developers really are insane. Rio Salado involves the purchase and recontouring, with $3 billion of taxpayer money, of Phoenix's Salt River floodplain, and the subsequent placement of homes, commercial and industrial complexes, Bermuda grass, and ornamental ponds (consuming as much water as a city of 100,000) on the floodplain. Of course, any dimwit knows you don't build on a floodplain, so Rio Salado developers plan to see to it that this area ceases to be a floodplain. This would be done by means of at least two ecologically disastrous dams — Roosevelt Dam on the Salt River and Cliff Dam on the Verde River.

Roosevelt Dam is an existing dam which would be raised 70 feet. Cliff Dam would be a 338 foot high earthen dam. These Bureau of Reclamation dams, along with necessary clean-up of hazardous waste dumps in the floodplain, would raise the cost of Rio Salado to close to $4 billion, although Rio Salado proponents are falsely calling it a $1 billion project.

The worst aspect of Rio Salado is Cliff Dam. Not only might Cliff Dam break — as did BuRec's 305 foot high earthen Teton Dam in Idaho — but it would flood critical habitat of perhaps one third of Earth's only remaining population of desert-nesting bald eagles. The 12-16 pairs of bald eagles which nest in Sonoran Desert streamside areas are distinct enough to be considered a special subspecies of bald eagle. Cliff Dam would submerge one nesting territory and severely degrade territories of at least 3 other pairs of eagles, and inundate feeding lands.

If Rio Salado is built, Cliff Dam will block the Sonoran Desert's last free-flowing river and will spoil miles of the Verde River which are now part of the National Wild & Scenic Rivers System. As an alternative, Earth First! proposes cancellation of Rio Salado and designation of all of the Verde River as Wild & Scenic. It is not too late to achieve these aims. Recently, the US Fish and Wildlife Service (thanks to the Reaganite scoundrels who now lead that agency) concluded that the project could be built despite the presence of bald eagles, but environmental groups plan to take this issue to court. Furthermore, because of bickering among competing water interests, it is possible that Cliff Dam (and another disastrous project: New Waddell Dam on the Agua Fria River northwest of Phoenix) will not receive funding. Arizonans should write to their members of Congress (House of Representatives, Washington, DC 20515; US Senate, Washington, DC 20510) and tell them to stop these destructive projects. For more information contact the Maricopa Audubon Society, 4619 East Arcadia Lane, Phoenix 85018.



TEXAS
(Cont)

Courtesy US Forest Service."

The evening of the second day of the talks was the time chosen by Texas Earth First! for the "Citizens' Free Wilderness Symposium," an independent event sponsored by Earth First!, Friends of Texas Wilderness, and the fledgling Baptists for Wilderness (memberships available from EF! Austin). The Forest Service's Symposium cost $60 for admission, so the EF! one was free. Ned Fritz of the Texas Committee on Natural Resources was the featured speaker on Wilderness timber cutting and the Southern Pine Beetle. Goons sent from the Texas Forest Service (a branch of Texas A & M University, which should give you an idea) to harass the environmentalists came prepared with a typed list of questions which they used to heckle the speakers, but to no avail. Unflappable, EF! and TCONR held sway and even managed to convince some of the goons that their dogma was getting in the way of their karma.

In late May, US District Judge William Steeger of Tyler, Texas, heard a petition for an injunction on further cutting of Wilderness Areas for Pine Beetle control. In spite of the admission on the witness stand by the Forest Service's Chief Contract Entomologist and Resident Local Tree Nazi Dr. Ron Billings that the control methods were ineffective, the Judge permitted the rape of designated Wilderness Areas to continue. He did, however, order the Freddies to personally inspect each site during logging operations and that hardwood trees could not be cut "unless absolutely necessary" (hardwoods are completely resistant to beetle attacks).

The Forest Service has been cutting down trees in Wilderness Areas since January. The stated reason is for "Pine Beetle Control," even though many of the Forest Service's own manuals say that logging in the vicinity of pine beetle infestations often encourages the spread of the infestation. The Freddies say these drastic measures are necessary in order to protect commercial timber lands outside Wilderness Areas from beetle attacks originating in the Wilderness and spreading to adjoining lands. They also claim that by cutting down pine trees that they are protecting the habitat of the Red Cockaded Woodpecker, an Endangered Species which requires old growth pine for habitat. Their argument goes that if the beetles kill trees in a woodpecker colony, then there will be a loss of habitat for the birds. So the Freddies are going out and killing living, healthy trees near infestation sites in so-called "buffer strips" in order to prevent the beetles from killing them first!

Forest Service "management" of Four Notch. Photo by Brad Moore.

Part of 4000 acres clearcut in 6200 acre Four Notch Roadless Area. Photo by Brad Moore.

On July 19, the Forest Service was taken to task by Congressman John Bryant of Dallas, the author of the Texas Wilderness Act of 1984, for the destruction of Wilderness Areas in Texas. A Congressional Field Hearing was held at the Upland Island Wilderness to see firsthand what the Freddies were doing to protect our Forest from the dastardly pine beetles. The Regional Forester from Atlanta, Jack Alcock, came out for the lynching and, boy, what a lynch mob there was. From as far away as Washington, DC, and California they came to watch the District Ranger sweat. The Freddies came off looking like the total buffoons they pretend to be. Almost all of the press was negative against the Forest Service. An Earth First!er, Larry Shelton, led the tour to the four-hundred acre clearcut in the center of the Wilderness Area, a mile away from the nearest Wilderness boundary and three quarters of a mile from the nearest Red Cockaded Woodpecker colony (lucky for them). Ruts and stumps everywhere, the Freddies had tried to tidy up before we came by planting bermuda grass in the roads they had "improved." The Congressman was not impressed.

Word from Washington in the wake of the Wilderness tour is that full hearings may be held in DC sometime this fall, if the Freddies don't come to their senses (don't hold your breath!). *Earth First!* will keep you informed.

Since July, another pine beetle court case was heard — this time in the Washington, DC, Federal Court before a decidely more sympathetic judge. The decision in that case was that the Forest Service must complete an Environmental Impact Statement before cutting any more trees in Wilderness Areas. Unfortunately, this decision applies only to Arkansas, Louisiana and Mississippi — not to Texas. Texas was excluded due to the pending case before Judge Steeger in Tyler, which should be resolved in September or October. So the cutting continues in the long, hot Texas summer . . . .

In the meantime, the Forest Plan is out and Earth First! is attacking it wholeheartedly. After much stalling, Forest Supervisor Mike Lannan has agreed to hold Forest Planning Workshops at the request of Texas Earth First! in Dallas, Houston and Nacogdoches. These workshops will be a great opportunity for radical environmentalists in Texas to show up and demand that the Forest Service cease their hideous experiments on the defenseless ecosystems of the East Texas National Forests. (*Editor's note: The Samhain issue will report on these workshops which were taking place at press time.*)

WHAT YOU CAN DO

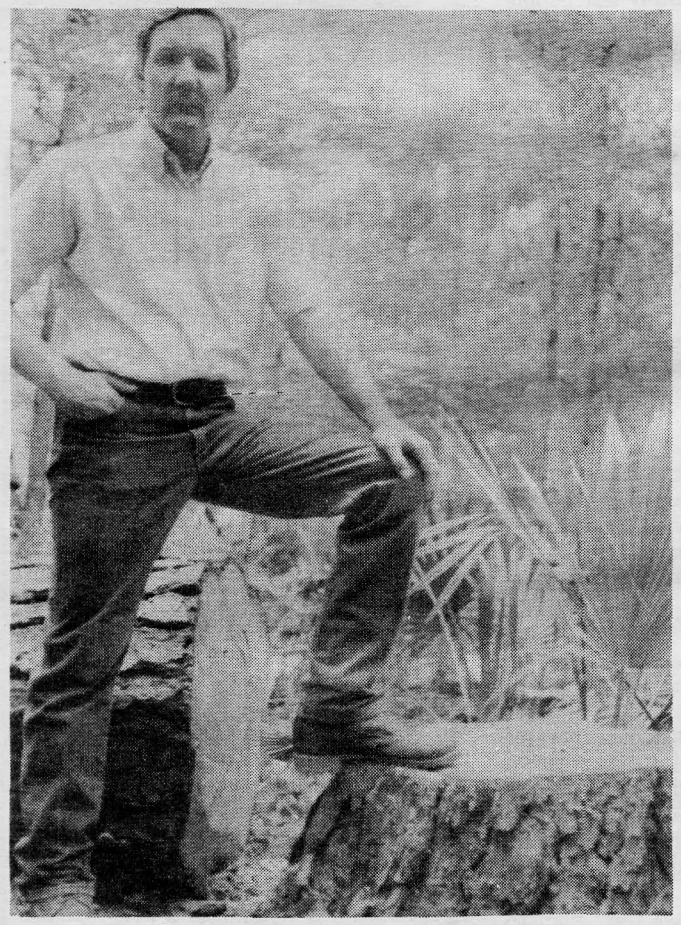
***Call David Orr of Texas EF! for more information: (512)477-7166 or 476-7905.**

***Obtain a copy of the Texas National Forests Land & Resources Management Plan and DEIS from William Lannan, Forest Supervisor, POB 969, Lufkin, TX 75901.**

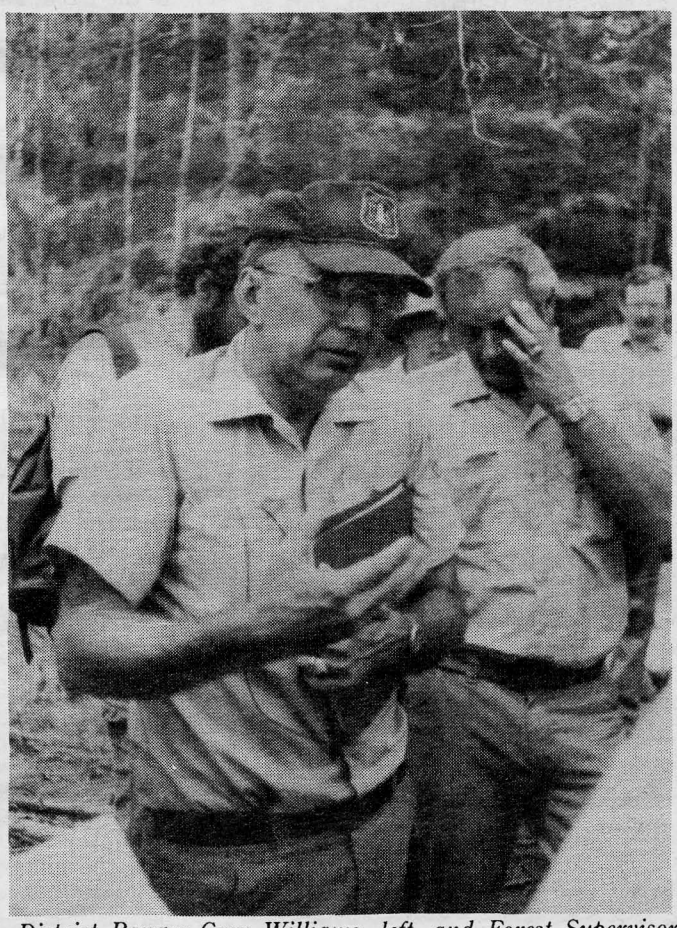
***Write Kirby Brock, Forest Service, 1720 Peachtree Rd NW, Atlanta, GA 30367 to comment against pine beetle control logging in Wilderness Areas for the environmental impact statement now being prepared.**

***Write the Hon. Jim Weaver, Chairman, Forestry Subcommittee, House of Representatives, Washington, DC 20515 urging him to hold full hearings on the Forest Service logging in Wilderness Areas. Send copies of your letter to your own member of Congress.**

This is your chance to stand up and be counted for Wilderness' sake! Let'm hear your voice loud and clear, because if the Tree Nazis get away with this one there won't be anything to stop them from coming to your Wilderness and doing whatever they want, in the name of protecting the resource. Keep on fighting!



Congressman John Bryant with felled pine in Upland Island Wilderness. Photo by David Orr.



District Ranger Cary Williams. left, and Forest Supervisor Mike Lannan sweat during Congressional field tour of Upland Island Wilderness. Photo by David Orr.

ROAD ENGINEER PROMOTED

If you read conservation publications, you've no doubt learned that the Northwest Regional Forester, "Friendly" Jeff Sirmon, has been promoted to Deputy Chief of the Forest Service. (See Howie Wolke's *Grizzly Den* in the Lughnasadh issue for background on this nice and progressive Freddie.) What none of the articles told you, and what we didn't know either until our friend "Deep Root" called us, was that nice guy Jeff was brought back to Washington because he is a slick lobbyist — *and a road engineer.* According to Deep Root, who has done more to alert the public to the excesses of road building on the National Forests than anyone else, Sirmon's charge as Deputy Chief is simple — DEFEND THE ROAD BUDGET. Yep, "Friendly" Jeff Sirmon, who has done such a fine job of turning the old growth wilderness of Washington and Oregon into stumps and rights-of-way, is now the Freddies' road lobbyist with Congress, the Administration, the media, and the public. What do you want to bet that he's the next Chief of the Forest Service whenever Fat Max "Road Warrior" Peterson (another Freddie Road Engineer) retires as Chief?

MILITARIZATION OF THE WEST CONTINUES

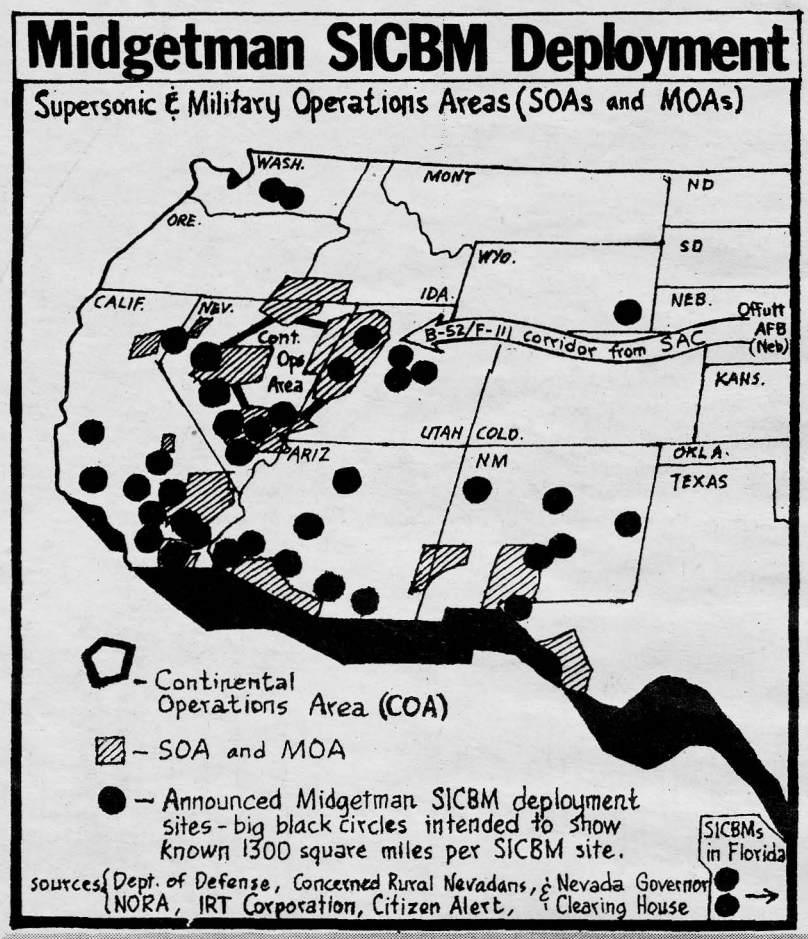
By Australopithecus

The abuse and seizure of lands in Western states by the military has intensified since Leon Czolgosz described the problem in the Brigid 1985 *Earth First!* . The military — usually the Air Force or Navy — now operates at least 12 huge Supersonic Operations Areas (SOAs) and Military Operations Areas (MOAs) in the West and they plan to enlarge these in number and size. These SOAs and MOAs, while not totally controlled by the military, are menaced by military maneuvers which often include low-flying aircraft, sonic booms, and bombing. Recently, it has become apparent that the Department of Defense (DoD) hopes to establish a Continental Operations Area (COA), covering about 1/3 of Nevada, by expanding existing MOAs and SOAs. Furthermore, the DoD has chosen 46 sites scattered throughout the West and Florida for deployment of 500 Midgetman SICBMs (Small Intercontinental Ballistic Missiles). The military has long been an insidious presence in the West — using or even controlling such areas as White Sands National Monument in New Mexico, Cabeza Prieta National Wildlife Refuge in Arizona, Yosemite and Sequoia National Parks in California, and the infamous Nevada Testing Site north of Las Vegas — but the new COA and SICBM plans and other military plans raise this presence to a frightening level.

The states which will have SICBM sites are mostly the same states which now have SOAs and MOAs: Washington, California, Nevada, Utah, Arizona, New Mexico, and Texas (see map). Five hundred Midgetman SICBMs are to be built — at a cost of $44 billion — as successors to the 50 MX missiles which the Pentagon is now trying to build. The SICBMs may replace the MX system or they may be built in addition to MX. So far, Congress has approved research and development funds for the SICBMs but not deployment funds. The Midgetman system may be based on a racetrack mode similar to the ludicrous affair proposed for the MX during the Carter years. The DoD plans to make a final decision on SICBM sites (they may eliminate a few of the 46; praise be to Allah!) in late 1986, and to deploy missiles by 1992. DoD wants to control 1300 square miles of area at each site. This is in addition to the huge area taken up by roads built so that senile military men can play their silly game of musical missiles in which SICBMs are shuttled between the various sites by truck.

In addition to being plagued by a new infestation of missiles, Western states will, if the Air Force (AF) has its way, soon be regularly invaded by B-52 and F-111 aircraft flying along a training corridor from the infamous Strategic Air Command in Nebraska through northern Colorado and into Utah, and along perhaps close to 100 corridors in central Nevada. These training corridors may consist of 350,000 square miles of air space.

The environmental effects of this aircraft traffic, though unpredictable, will undoubtedly be harmful. The effects of military maneuvers upon people in affected areas are also serious, yet the military intends to subject central Nevada to up to 100 sonic booms per day in a 5500 square mile area which includes several Wilderness Study Areas (WSAs). Currently, the military has had to keep its sonic booms down to a less unreasonable number due to protests from affected Westerners.



Navy investigators taking names. Photo by Charles S. Watson.

The Continental Operations Area was first proposed in 1974 but banned in Congress. Now the military is resurrecting the idea in the form of a project known as the Strike Warfare Group. Part of this project involves linking the Navy's Fallon SOA with the AF's Gandy SOA and Mountain Home MOA. In addition to linking these SOA's and MOA's, the DoD plans to establish new SOA's this year. Already, the military is preparing (inadequate) EISs for new SOAs at Hill Air Force Base. The Nevada Outdoor Recreation Association (NORA) claims that for the COA only an environmental analysis (an EA; much less thorough than an EIS) will be prepared, and it will contain a FONSI —finding of no significant impact on the environment! NORA is trying to force the military to do a Comprehensive Programmatic EIS for its SOA program, but the military is only willing to do site-specific EISs. The linkage of SOAs and MOAs shows how just and important NORA's demand is. To achieve its expansion of SOAs and MOAs and to establish its COA, the military is exploiting the fact that most of the lands involved belong to the BLM, and generally few people other than cattle ranchers give much heed to BLM lands. To quote NORA: "Indeed, the military is counting on BLM's 'wasteland' image to seize sensitive public lands. In Nevada, at least 12 prime WSAs — along with Forest Service RARE II areas, a potential national park and vital 'areas of critical environmental concern' ('ACECs') — are affected. Especially in the case of the WSAs, military air practices constitute serious violations of the 1976 Federal Lands Policy and Management Act" (FLPMA).

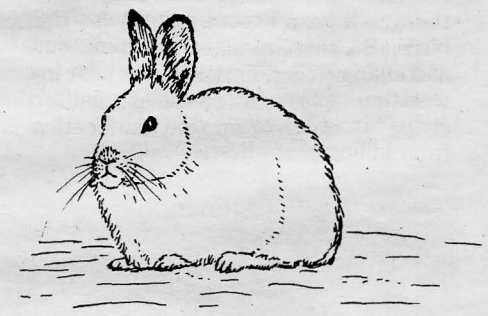
Along with its continued air and land seizures — both "legal" and illegal — the military has directly damaged land in the West (and thoughout the world, for that matter). For example, the US Fish and Wildlife Service has charged the Fallon Naval Air Station (NAS) with bombing the Stillwater Wildlife Management Area. The Nevada Department of Wildlife is disgruntled at the Navy for dumping aviation fuel in the Stillwater refuge and in the Lahontan Reservoir.

Of course, the DoD denies most of the allegations against its aggressive land grabbing and/or simply refuses to discuss the subject. Just how much of the West will be militarized is unpredictable; the military would have us believe they simply need a few more small land parcels. They deny that they plan to establish a COA. But the military's integrity is questionable.

Congress is currently considering legislation which would help the military in its theft of Western land. In the Senate, James McClure has introduced, for President Reagan, S1444, a bill that would exempt the military from provisions of FLPMA , in effect giving the military legal power to obtain public lands without public input. In the House of Representatives, another bad bill, HR1790, would legitimize past illegal seizures of lands, such as the Bravo 20 area and the Groom Range (both in Nevada), by the military. We should all write to our legislators demanding that S1444 and HR1790 be rejected.

Clearly the military is overstepping the limits of legality in its seizure of Western lands. Government agencies, including the Nevada Department of Wildlife, the US Fish and Wildlife Service, and, privately, even BLM officials have complained of the DoD's aggressive land-grabbing/land-bombing. Nevada's governor Richard Bryan has worked to gain compensation for Nevadans living in SOAs and MOAs for the adverse health and financial effects inflicted upon them by the military. About 45 diverse groups, representing miners, trappers, animal protectionists, and environmentalists, have united in opposition to the military's abuse of Western land and air. A leadership role has been taken by NORA. NORA, under the bold direction of Charlie Watson, recently organized an occupation of an illegal bombing site — Bravo 20, in the Fallon SOA. The Navy has been bombing Bravo 20, which is BLM land, since 1954 without the BLM's permission. On June 6, 1985 Dr. Richard Bargon led a group of protesters to camp at Bravo 20 to force the Navy to stop bombing it. The Navy foolishly arrested the protesters but was forced to drop charges when news coverage of the event sparked public protest.

Which brings us to our appeal for help: In order to prevent military madmen from bombing Bravo 20 and other wild areas of the West, and in order to awaken the public to the evil designs of the DoD, more occupations and protest encampments as well as milder forms of protest are being considered. Probably you've been thinking of camping soon anyway; why not volunteer to lead or join a group of protesters camping among the shrapnel and un-exploded bombs in a secluded Western desert? For information on the issue of the militarization of the West and how to fight it, contact Charlie Watson, NORA, POB 1245, Carson City, NV 89702 (702-883-1169); or Concerned Rural Nevadans, c/o Richard Holmes, 1150 Maine St., Fallon, NV 89406 (702-423-4770).



Protestors assembling at Lone Rock. Photo by Charles S. Watson.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EARTH FIRST! RENDEZVOUS

NOVEMBER 1 - 3, 1985 WILDERNESS GARDENS PRESERVE

Earth First! in Southern California? You bet! All Southern California Earth First!ers are invited to spend a weekend together at the walk-in campground at WILDERNESS GARDENS PRESERVE to discuss issues and organizing. Dave Foreman will attend, along with others from Earth First! Tucson.

Wilderness Gardens Preserve is east of Pala on Route 76. Drive ten miles east of the intersection of Route 76 and I-15 (between Fallbrook and Escondido). For more information contact Randy or Evelyn (714)728-0795 or write POB 1532, San Juan Capistrano, CA 92693. A flyer with a map will be mailed out in October. See you there!

NEVADANS LOVE WILDERNESS

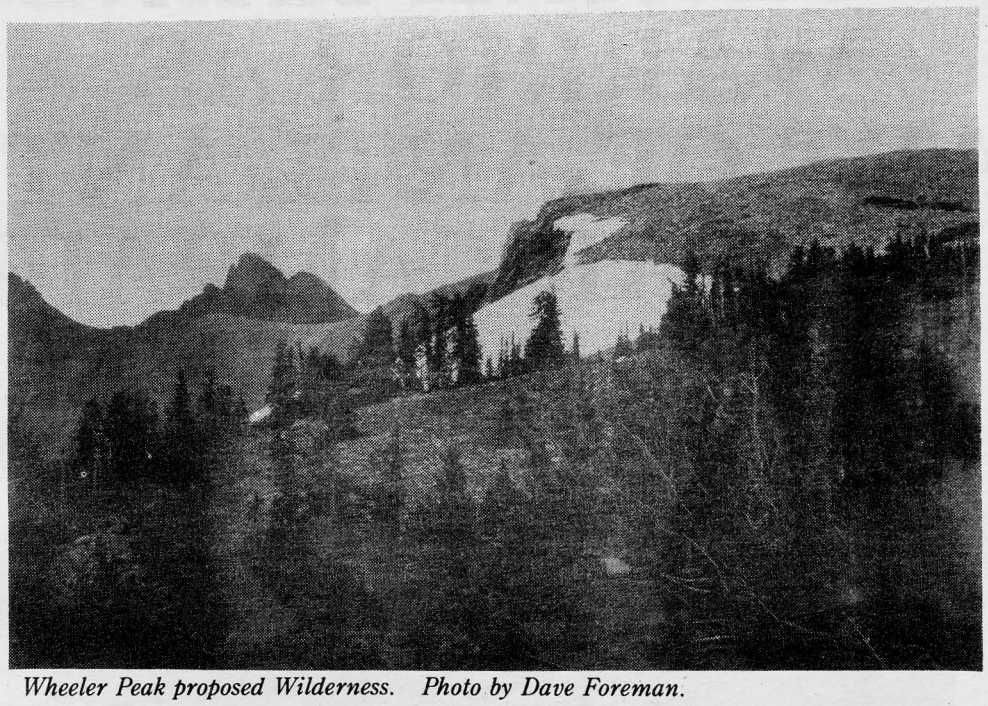
By Henry Mota

Wilderness in Nevada? Cows in Berkeley? Do Nevadans love wilderness? Well, yes and no. Some of us sure do. And as Aldo Leopold said, ". . . a militant minority of wilderness-minded citizens must be on watch throughout the nation and vigilantly available for action." Action was the name of the game in Nevada the weekend of July 1, 1985, as Nevada's members of Congress (Senator Chic Hecht, Congresswoman Barbara Vucanovich and Congressman Harry Reid) and Congressman John Seiberling of Ohio (Chair of the Public Lands Subcommittee) toured Nevada's proposed National Forest Wilderness Areas in military helicopters.

One stop was the head of Lamoille Canyon in the Ruby Mountains near Elko where the public was invited to speak their minds about Wilderness. That evening the Nevada Cattlemen's and Nevada Wool Growers' Associations threw a big bar-b-que for the members of Congress.

I spent the day before posting leaflets all over Elko and passing them out to anyone who would take one. I was trying to drum up suppport for Wilderness not only in Nevada but in the West as a whole. If one person wrote one letter to their representatives supporting Wilderness, it was all worth the effort. I also posted silent agitators in several strategic locations where the reps would see them.

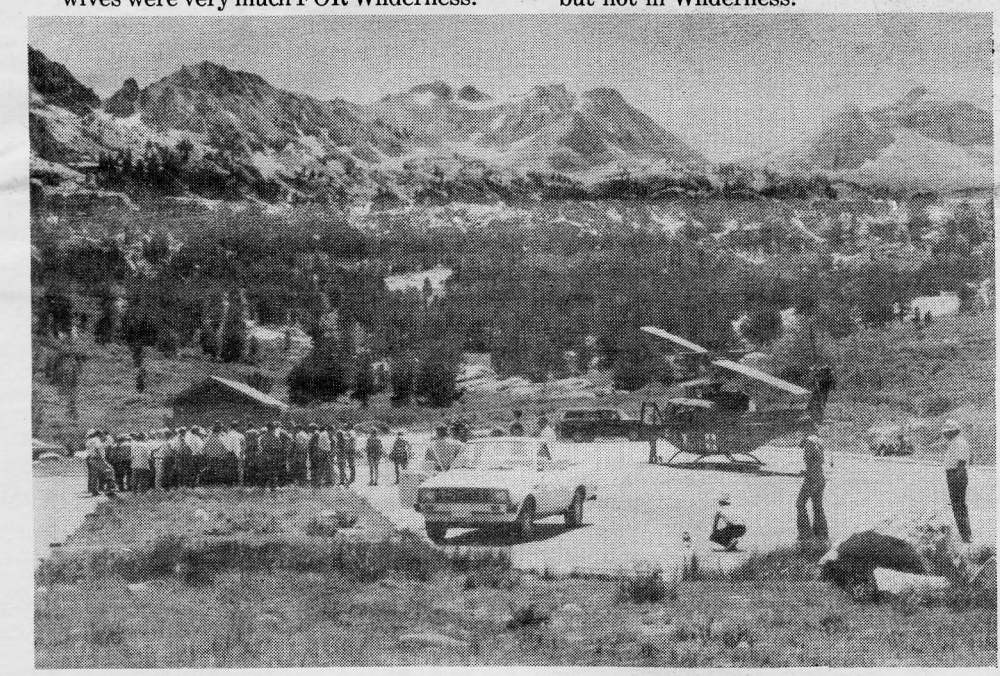
There were about 100 people at Lamoille Canyon to meet the dignitaries. (In all the confusion I managed to place several silent agitators inside the helicopter.) Although half of them were anti-wilderness, to my great surprise several of the ranchers and their wives were very much FOR Wilderness.



Wheeler Peak proposed Wilderness. Photo by Dave Foreman.

These were people who'd seen what a large mine can do to the the view out the ol' living room window — not to mention to their favorite trout streams.

Most of the arguments ranchers brought up against Wilderness were unfounded. They were concerned about losing their grazing rights. Congressman Seiberling repeatedly told them that under the Wilderness Act of 1964 grazing rights would remain at historic levels. Many were also concerned about losing private land located within the proposed Wilderness Areas. Again, Seiberling explained that private land has more protection within a Wilderness Area than merely within a National Forest — the Forest Service can condemn private land in National Forests but not in Wilderness.



The dignataries arrive at LaMoille Canyon. Photo by Henry Mota.

The ranchers who attended own some of the best ranches in Nevada where "stewardship of the land" and a "conservation ethic" are obviously being practiced (unlike in some of your favorite federal agencies). Their opposition to Wilderness in Nevada is based on one simple thing: ignorance. Had they really understood what Wilderness designation meant, many more of them would have been pro-wilderness, I believe.

It's a shame then that Senators Hecht and Laxalt, and Congresswoman Vucanovich have their minds set so firmly against Wilderness. (They have proposed a pitifully phony "Wilderness" bill that would protect only four truncated areas — Jarbidge additions, Mount Moriah, Charleston Peak, and Boundary Peak, totaling a measly 137,000 acres.) Mechanized recreation has already seized 98% of the valleys and mountains of Nevada — a decent respect for minorities should dedicate the other two percent to Wilderness. Two lousy percent. But the only Nevada rep who even has an open mind on the subject is Cong. Harry Reid, and he's under a lot of pressure. Just two percent of the population of Nevada are ranchers and yet they want "ranch access roads" over 100% of the state. The beef production in Nevada is 0.4% of the national output and yet Nevada's obsession with the GNP and never-ending-economic-growth blinds it to the folly of opposing *all* Wilderness. How do we educate these people?

It's obvious to me that Vucanovich, Hecht and Laxalt are quite simply in the backpocket of Big Money. That should come as no surprise. The Wilderness Bill introduced by these three is a slap in the face to every intelligent Nevadan who can see something/anything besides dollar signs. *Their bill calls for less than four percent of the National Forest Roadless Area acreage in Nevada to be protected!* This would open the other three and a half million acres of RARE II areas in Nevada to road building, government-subsidized welfare-ranching "land improvements," mining, etc. And yet the aides for all four of my representatives have told me that the vast majority of the letters they've received have been pro-wilderness! So what gives Paul, Chic, and Barbara? Is Freeport Gold sending your kids through college? How about Carlin Gold? Dresser Industries? What? Speak up, I can't hear you!

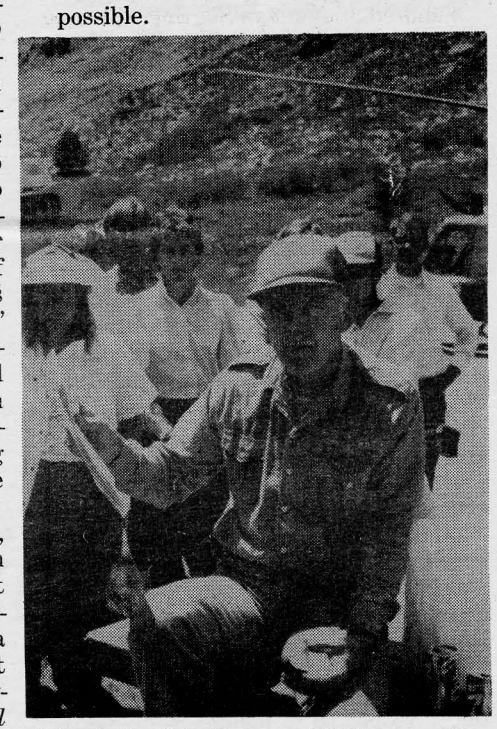
WHAT YOU CAN DO

*Write your members of Congress (House of Representatives, Washington, DC 20515; US Senate, Washington, DC 20510) and urge them to support Wilderness designation for all 3,500,000 acres of RARE II areas in Nevada National Forests.

*Also write Senator Paul Laxalt, Senator Chic Hecht, and Congresswoman Barbara Vucanovich. Tell them how disgusted you are with them, and urge them to change their tune and support Wilderness. Send them a dry cow chip just on general principles.

*Write Congressman Harry Reid and thank him for not sponsoring Vucanovich's anti-wilderness bill. Urge him to submit his own Wilderness bill for Nevada. Express your support for all of the RARE II areas in Nevada.

*Finally, write The Hon. John Seiberling, Chairman, Public Lands Subcommitee, House of Representatives, Washington, DC 20515. Thank him for recognizing that the National Forests of Nevada belong to all Americans and not just to the Big Money interests that run Nevada. Urge him to fight hard to protect the maximum number of Nevada RARE II areas possible.



John Seiberling discusses Wilderness with Nevadans. Photo by Henry Mota.

FIRE! — AN EXCUSE FOR ROADS

This summer, a major abuse of National Forests has become apparent. The drought conditions prevailing in much of the West, combined with the excess of undergrowth which has accumulated over the years due to the FS's intense aversion to natural (and healthy) forest fires, resulted in huge fires sweeping through many Western forests. These fires provided the FS with an ideal excuse to build roads into roadless areas so that fire fighters had quick access to forest interiors, where they valiantly fought and quenched the evil flames. Indeed, the FS practices pre-attack fire planning in which Freddies determine beforehand where they will place fire control roads. During July of this year, the FS leased and loosed about 40 bulldozers upon central Idaho's backcountry, allegedly to combat fires. (Ponder this problem, Johnny Fireseed.) The FS also enjoys cutting or burning giant swaths through forests and calling these clearcuts "fire breaks." In some places in Idaho, areas the size of football fields have been scraped bare. Timber felled for fire control is often sold at prices far below the market value.

Examples from this summer of roadless areas invaded by Freddies and their machines in the name of fire control include the French Creek area of Payette National Forest, Lake Mountain in Salmon National Forest, Yankee Fork in Challis National Forest, and the Jersey Jack area in the Nez Perce National Forest. Jersey Jack was a proposed Wilderness Area; it is no longer roadless. The FS never writes EIS's for their fire suppression programs, even though the damage they do for the sake of fire suppression is so extensive that such damage enables them to disqualify affected areas from Wilderness consideration. The largest roadless area in the 48 states — the three and a half million acre Salmon River country of central Idaho — shrank this summer. It begins to look as though fires will enable the FS to exceed the 21,000 miles of new roads it has planned for the Northern Rockies for the near future. Since each mile of road constructed equals 5 acres of forest cleared, 21,000 miles of new road is comparable to 100,000 acres of strip-mined land.

Hall Creek Well Stopped (for now)

In a surprising turn of events, a government appeals board has ruled against two other government agencies in favor of conservation groups in a dispute over a deep test well on the Rocky Mountain Front adjacent to Glacier National Park (for background see *Earth First!* Eostar, 1985, and Lughnasadh, 1985).

The decision to approve American Petrofina's 13,000 foot deep Hall Creek Well was appealed by the Glacier-Two Medicine Alliance, the Rocky Mountain Front Advisory Council, and seven other groups and individuals on the grounds that it would jeopardize the continued existence of the grizzly bear and gray wolf.

On August 9, 1985, the Interior Board of Land Appeals remanded the Hall Creek Environmental Assessment for further study. Reasons for the decision were based on four points:

1. The Environmental Assessment failed to address the effects of proposed timber sales in the area when assessing cumulative effects of the well and other activities.

2. Given the possibility of discovery of an archaeological site, there was no provision given for the possible effects of such a discovery on the location of the road.

3. The Fish & Wildlife Service's no-jeopardy opinion was contingent upon the Forest Service's ability to close the road to all outsiders. However, in light of an 1896 treaty, it is questionable whether the Forest Service has that right with respect to Blackfeet Indians.

4. The Fish & Wildlife Service's no-jeopardy opinion was contingent upon an effective interagency law-enforcement program involving the suppport of the Blackfeet Tribe when, in fact, the Blackfeet Tribe gave no such support.

It is important to note that this decision does not prevent the Hall Creek well, but merely delays it until next year. Montana Earth First! has promised direct action to stop the well when and if an attempt is made to put it in. Contact Barb & Gary Steele, Rt. 1 Box 44K, St. Ignatius, MT 59865, for more information and to offer your help in this crucial Earth First! campaign.

FRENCH SINK RAINBOW WARRIOR AS PART OF ANTI-ANTI-NUCLEAR CAMPAIGN

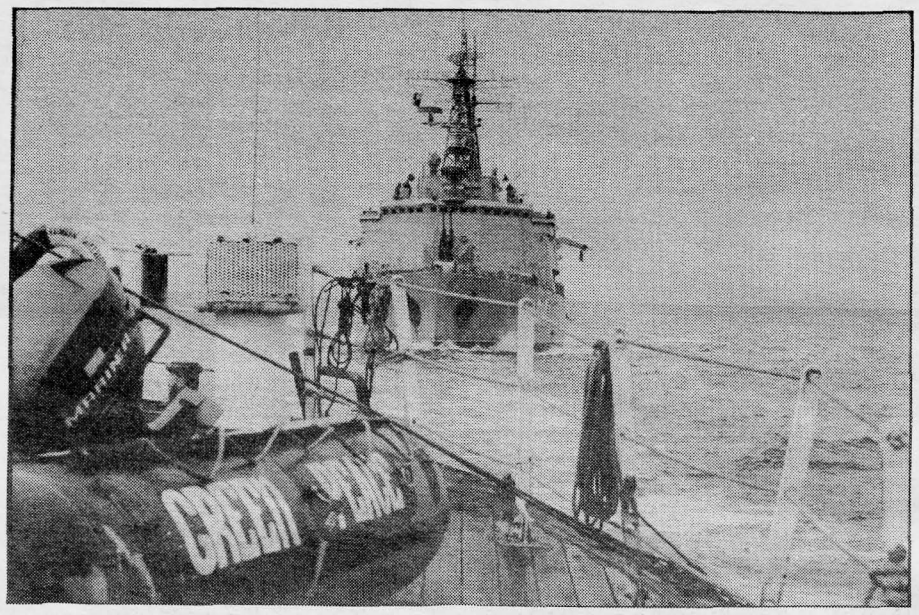
D. Bird

The sinking of the Rainbow Warrior on July 10 appears to add a new and dangerous element of opposition to ecologists' struggle to preserve Earth. However, a look into the French government's dealings with the anti-nuclear movement of recent years makes it apparent that the Rainbow Warrior bombing represents not the beginning but the escalation of France's violent opposition to ecologists (environmentalists and peace activists). Greenpeace members, in previous confrontations with the French, had been physically attacked. At least on a small scale, violence against ecologists also occurs in the US (and Western European countries), as many EF! activists can verify. What remains to be seen is the extent to which infiltration, violence, and terrorism as means to thwart ecologists will become commonplace thoughout the world.

Fortunately, despite the bombing of the Rainbow Warrior, and the threatening letter received by the New Zealand Greenpeace office the day after the bombing, Greenpeace will sail another ship to oppose the French bombing in the Pacific islands. Furthermore, this month, Greenpeace will risk still another confrontation with France by sailing to Antarctica to establish a base camp from which they will promote protection of Antarctica as a World Park and will take direct action against an airstrip project by France and oil exploration by Japan. In April, Greenpeace had received the gift of a ship , which will help cover the loss of the Rainbow Warrior. Greenpeace hopes to win a suit in the European Court of Human Rights against France which would further cover their loss and the loss of life of Fernando Pereira.

Certainly, Greenpeace should win its case against France. Even the French press has condemned the French government. After competing with one another to uncover the facts about the sinking of Greenpeace's boat, French journalists reached the conclusion that their government was guilty. "From hypotheses to certainties: the DGSE secret service is at the origin of the attack against Greenpeace," headlined the respected middle-of-the-road French newspaper *Le Monde* on August 17; while the weekly *l'Express* detailed "The Secrets of an Affair of State." Employees of French intelligence, journalists agreed, sank the ship, as the crew was preparing to sail to the site of French nuclear weapons tests.

"Not so," subsequently reported M. Tricot, appointed by President Mitterand to study the attack. Tricot admitted that, as the journalists had learned, eight French agents were involved with Greenpeace in New Zealand: the couple with the false name Turenge who were arrested by the New Zealand police; Frederique Bonlieu, who had infiltrated Greenpeace; and three of the four crew members of the yacht Ouvea. The last, Tricot said, were frogmen in the intelligence service, and with their yacht were spirited back to France by the service. Nevertheless, Tricot claimed, these people were only collecting information on Greenpeace and looking for further ways to infiltrate the organization. They had not placed the bombs on the hull of the Warrior and caused the death of a Greenpeace photographer. Tricot's report also implicated some of France's top spy chiefs in undercover dealings against Greenpeace: Admiral Henry Fages, former head of the French nuclear testing establishment (DIRCEN) urged the government to counter Greenpeace's protest plans. Charles Hernu, Defense Minister, increased the surveillance of



Soviet destroyer bearing down on the Rainbow Warrior, 1983. Photo by Richard Dawson, Greenpeace.

Greenpeace by France's external secret service (DGSE). The head of DGSE, Admiral Pierre LaCoste also promoted this increased surveillance. Gen Jean Saulnier, chief military aide to the Presidential Palace, approved the plans to spy on Greenpeace.

The French press has denounced Tricot's report, and New Zealand's Prime Minister Lange was so angered by the inadequate report that he said that France should recall its ambassador. Tricot acknowledged that he could not obtain all the information he needed. Tricot's non-condemnatory report is not surprising given the French Government's history of ruthlessness towards opponents of their nuclear program.

In early September the French government's short wave radio station reported that during the prime ministership of Messmer, 1972-74, the government seriously considered sinking a Greenpeace ship. The weekly *VSD* has claimed that such an order was issued in 1978 and then countermanded. *L'Express*, while excusing the government on the ground that Greenpeace had been infiltrated by Communists, stated in its August 16-22 issue that "The derisory flotillas chartered by pacifist organizations were neutralized on several occasions by all sorts of means, including those too shameful to avow (les plus inavouables)."

Within France, repression of ecologists has been less secretive. At Malville, site of the 1200 megawatt Superphenix breeder reactor, 60,000 people gathered for a demonstration July 31, 1977. The police fired tear gas and percussion grenades. One marcher, a pacifist, was killed and about one hundred were injured, some seriously. Eight activists were arrested after the demonstration and given prison sentences.

For the French government the day was a success. In the early and mid-seventies there was strong opposition to nuclear power in France, and activists used a wide range of tactics, from petitions to sabotage. They did not succeed in changing the government's plans. The killing was so traumatic that after July 1977, opposition to nuclear power withered away. Greenpeace has been one of the few holdouts, and it has worked in France on international rather than national nuclear issues.

Now the government refuses to apologize for — at least — spying on Greenpeace, and is stiffening its opposition to the antinuclear movement. France is trying to do on the international level what it succeeded in doing at home: decimate the opposition. Mitterand in mid-August sent orders to the armed forces to oppose, "if necessary by means of force," any violation of what France considers to be its national territory, in the air and in the sea, around the atolls of Mururoa and Fangatuafa.

Mitterand is protecting France's "right" to test in the Pacific, contested by many Pacific states. Greenpeace's President McTaggart told *Le Monde* that Greenpeace wants to find out to what extent the testing, and in particular a 150 kiloton explosion last May, has released radioactivity into the environment. Evidence of damage to people and land would strengthen the hand of states opposing France.

From a wider perspective France is protecting her nuclear strike force, the land-, air-, and sea-based prongs of which are all undergoing modernization. At the very least, by 1995 France will double its number of warheads, now at about 380, and increase the range and accuracy of its forces. France's fire power is now 6600 Hiroshimas. Its present nuclear testing is part of a program to develop the neutron bomb.

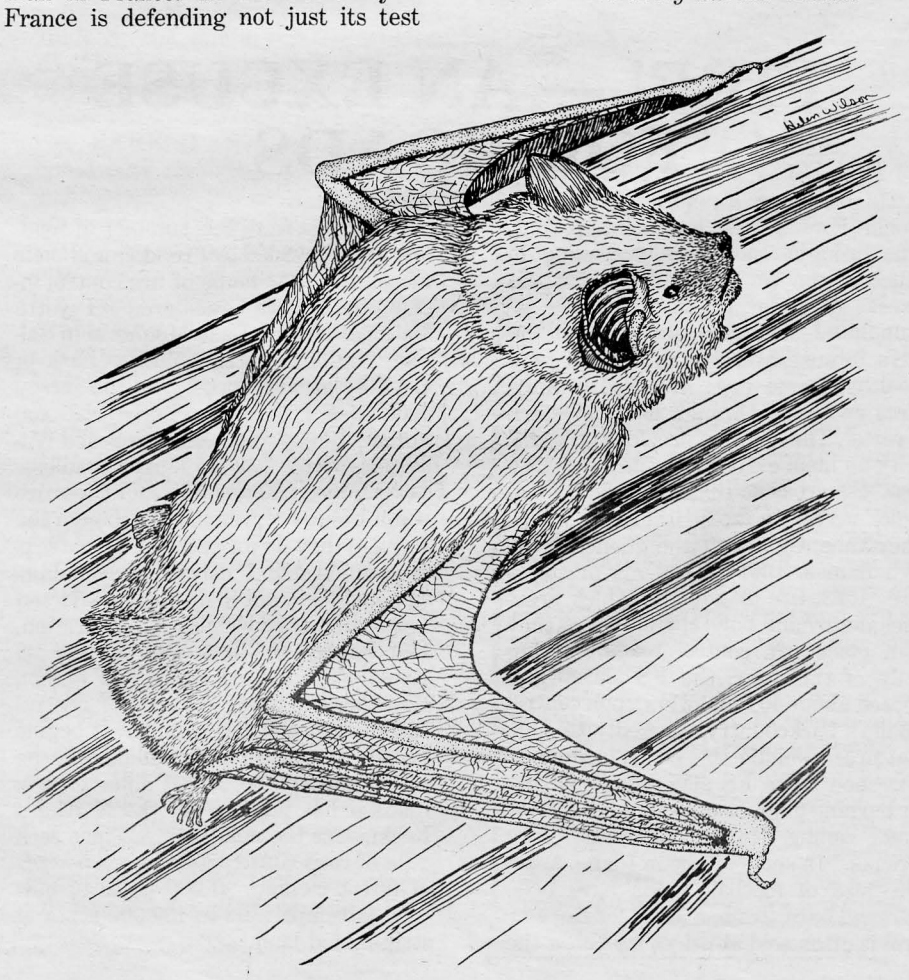
Plutonium for modernization of France's nuclear forces will apparently come from the Superphenix breeder reactor, scheduled to begin generating electricity for a consortium of utilities this fall. Such a use of plutonium would be a logical part of French policy. The tie between the military atom and the civilian atom are nowhere more obvious than in France. In the last analysis France is defending not just its test sites or its weapons program against Greenpeace but its nuclear industry as a whole. The demonstrator who was killed at Malville and the member of Greenpeace who died in New Zealand were resisting the same enemy.

The French Atomic Energy Commission (CEA) is charged with the development of both civilian and military uses of the atom. The agency works on utility reactors with Electricity of France, which now generates approximately 60% of its electricity with nuclear power. At the same time, it cooperates with the General Commission on Armaments. The CEA's subsidiary COGEMA produces nuclear weapons material as well as fuel for civilian reactors; and its branch, Management of Military Applications (DAM), manufactures warheads.

The constitution of former President DeGaulle set up a strong central government. Decisions about utility programs and about armaments are made by the central administration under the influence of the CEA and its branch, DAM. France's nuclear power program, embodying every phase of the fuel cycle, is the most ambitious in the world, yet the French Parliament has never voted on the energy policy. It votes on the defense budget, but only with inadequate information. In France, citizens seldom write to their representatives, because the representatives have no say on many important issues and because facts which the public might wish to discuss are unavailable. The technocrats rule virtually unchallenged.

In the US we enjoy a Freedom of Information Act, but the French program points to questions for us: how closely are the civilian and military nuclear programs connected here, and how much say do we have in decisions on weapons? On August 1, after the bombing of the Rainbow Warrior, Reagan approved a French-US agreement for cooperation on the security of nuclear installations and activities, which extends and modifies an arrangement made in 1961. Congress has 3 months in which to express an opinion. Reagan's willingness to work with the French on this issue and at this time is ominous.

The author has spent the last year in France researching nuclear issues.



Notes From a Maturing Tree-Hugger

by Rufus Cohen

Bedazzled. That's how I feel now — bedazzled and confused. I am bedazzled at how quickly my present environmental ethic has evolved, and confused about what to do with it. There is no doubt that I find joy in being scared out of my skin by rattlesnakes, freezing my fingers in a winter storm, and scrambling through canyons miles from civilization. I also do not doubt my ability to come up with very wild and only slightly illegal methods of dam-destruction and clearcut prevention, but where further to go with that is still confusing for me. What I do know is that maintaining a deep planet connection is difficult in society today, and I haven't had much experience defending it.

This is all new to me, first of all, because I am only seventeen years old, and second of all because my feelings on the matter have matured rather quickly over the past two years on the National Audubon Society's Expedition Institute (AEI), a one-room environmental science/education schoolhouse on wheels that roams the country seeking knowledge of people, nature, and deep ecology. This speedy maturing has come about from sleeping outside every night, visiting farmers and native Americans, hiking, canoeing, and skiing in dozens of wilderness settings, talking with environmental activists, scientists, and educators, and living in a self-supportive community. These experiences have given me feelings whose intensities I have never felt before. Somewhere in these past two years I have learned to keep the planet's welfare in mind and learned that I am an integral part of it. It is magical how this connectedness has crept up upon me, and I am glad that I have gone through the process of finding it. What is left in front of me now is the questions of how to save these new parts of myself that I value from the overwhelming cultural machine, and how to protect the planet.

There were many times as a young boy when other parts of myself were under attack. As a child raised by quasi-hippie middle class artists, I had to deal with the humiliation of wearing sandals to kindergarten and having homemade whole wheat bread with garden vegetables in my lunchbox. Through elementary school I was constantly and often maliciously reminded that "Rufus" was not a usual name. A year in England gave me a chance to deal with being called a "yankee" and a "yid" (Jew), and during the two years that I could stand local high school much of my creativity, excitement for learning, and love for the out-of-doors was squashed. The rejection I have felt in each of these situations has been strong, and in each situation I changed myself to stop the rejection. I had my mother buy white bread instead of making her own, sneakers replaced my sandals, mindless drivel replaced my previously creative high school papers, I tried to give myself an English accent, and I even attempted to change my name to 'Charles.'

It was always my emotions that felt attacked, and I would cover up emotions or aspects of myself to fit the cultural mold. I did this for years until I fit the culturally recognizable role of a blinded Joe Cool high school punk. Much of my natural emotionality had given in to society, and because of that I was less happy. From my more recent experiences I know that my emotions are most healthy and clear while in direct contact with the natural world. I have come to see my emotions as being the planet speaking to me — a dammed river speaking through my anger, sadness emerging from a molested forest, and a wild animal setting off my joy. The "sense of wonder" that many people today yearn for, and which is notably evident in children, is a direct communication with the Earth. I now see any attack on my feelings as an attack on my human nature and my natural right to communicate with the environment. Just as I can now be labeled an "obstructionist," a "tree-hugger," or an "elitist" and be subdued or ignored by our society, a wolf, for example, is labeled "a fierce, violent, sheep-killer" and is subdued and killed by human beings. What happens to my nature also happens to the planet's nature. At this point I am angry that all of this has been allowed to happen, for invaluable parts of myself and the planet have been lost to the Western human lifestyle.

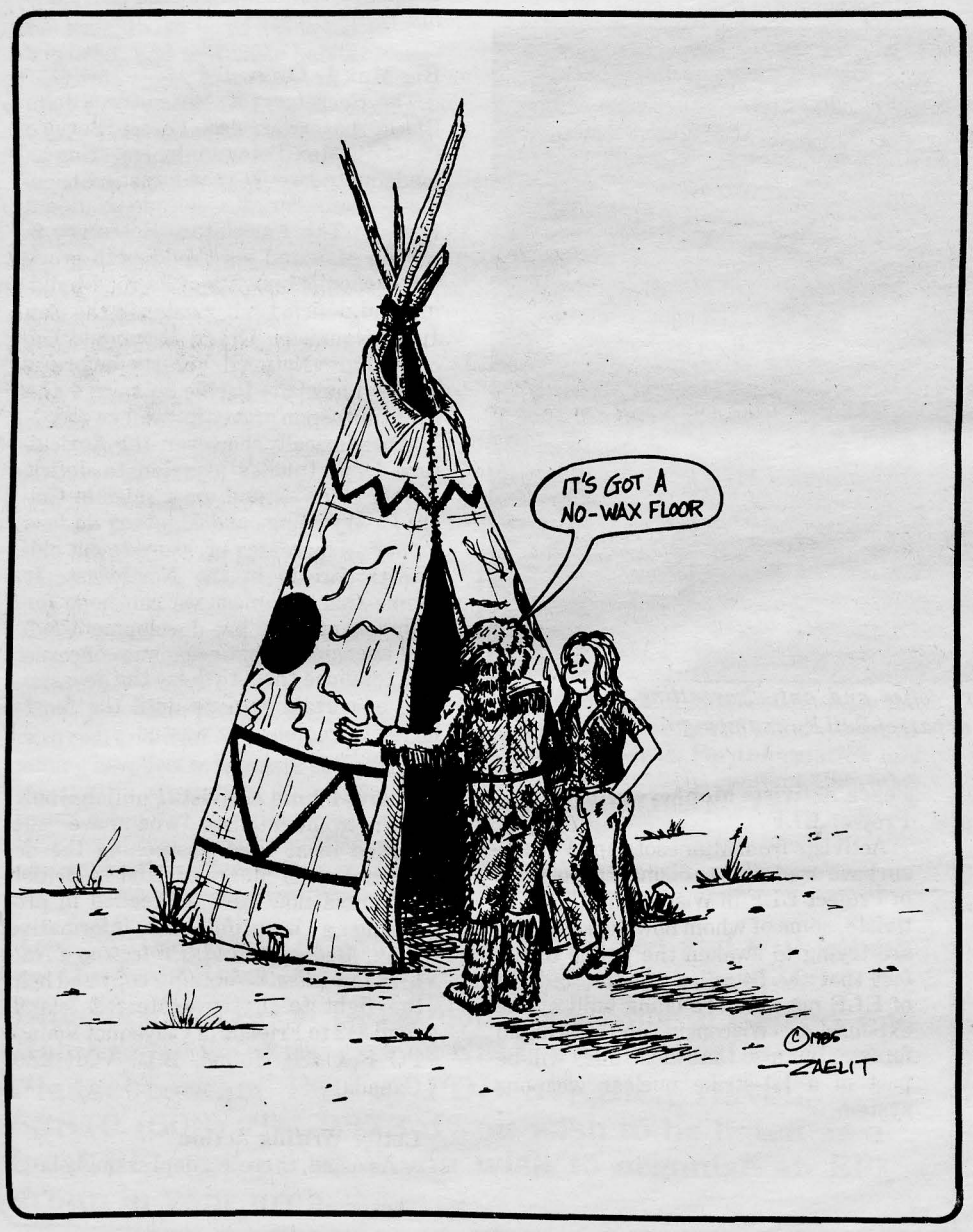
I am also bedazzled by my new self-respect. There is no doubt in my mind that as my awareness of the Earth grows, so does awareness of myself. Respect for the planet's fluctuations comes hand in hand with respect for my own fluctuations. My newfound love for life includes a reverence for nature and a reverence for self. As I forget my fears of unpredictable rainstorms, waterless deserts, freezing in snowstorms, and wild predators, I also stop neglecting my anger, joy, sadness, frustration, etc. Accepting my emotions has brought about a true acceptance of myself, for my emotions have more to do with me than any material or intellectual standing.

Western civilization has left behind much of people's feelings and deep-felt planetary connection — there is no use for them in our culture, and they are averted where possible. My family and peers don't understand and don't like the reactions they get from "eco-freaks" like me, because working outside of the linear logical systems of our society is often very confronting to them. My tears and sadness are often deemed "over-emotional," and my anger makes me "abrasive" or an "obstructionist." Many environmentalists and conservation organizations demean the value of the emotional reaction in their field, for they prefer to work within the system. There are two distinct languages here — culture's, and nature's — and I know them both. I can speak the language of logic, money, and technology as learned from my traditional education, or I can speak the language of ecosystems and emotions as learned from nature. The people who run and listen to government, media, and education have little support for the Earth's language. Wild species survive only because they sense the Earth's language.

Here lies my confusion — which language should I speak? Each is not always best in every situation. For myself, I know that I need the voice of the wilderness — the call of the wild — in me if I am to keep going. But most people do not understand that. As my friend Mike Cohen, a guide and founder of AEI, once put it, "You've got to be like a coyote — adapting to each environment as the environment requires, because the coyote is surviving, even thriving, in the subdivided world of wilderness allotments, farmlands, and Compound 1080 . . . ." For instance, if I head off to traditional college next year, I will need to find a balance between time devoted to schoolwork and time devoted to the environment, and if I become fully involved in an issue to save a living system, I will have to find the right times to work within the system and when to work without it. This, I think, is the challenge for myself and the environmental movement — to work within the culture to save our planet without giving in to the culture. One of the most vital things that I have learned on AEI is that there is a difference between cultural and natural, in the world and in myself, and that it is people's acculturation that is plundering the Earth, not human nature.

Finding my own nature and its connection to the planet has indeed been very special to me, although I am finding that in this day and age I am not allowed to get close enough. If I ever do find that special mountain, bay, or neck of woods with which to live for the rest of eternity, someone will be in there to blast, dam, or cut it up. I have been cheated of the right and ability to hunt and gather, have a pure spiritual vision, or to communicate with birds, lions, or other wild things, and I shall forever be sore about that. But I was not born a Hopi, an Australian aborigine, or a prehistoric European druid, nor was I born in any day and age but this one. Much of my survival and happiness still stems from quick-fix foods, instant electric music, and false womb-like shelters of this culture. But it is all that I have been born into, and all that I have to live with.

The best I can do in life now is to live it to its fullest, accepting that the people I might meet will be like me, as screwed over as the landscape, and that both people and planet need all the help they can get. I can sympathize with most people, no matter how crazy they are, and I can sympathize with falling and dying condors, for it has all happened to me too. I cannot expect "pure" wilderness, just as I cannot find purely clear emotions in my heart. It has all been violated. I am now a child of Mother Nature and Father Culture, and have to deal with their clashes and squabbles. I shall inherit in myself all that their confrontation has leashed out onto the world. In a sense, I am kind of a messed-up child, and have to realize that my world is not as "simple" as a pre-Columbian native American's or that of a sheltered, rich, unaware, New York City Jew. As long as I know that that's the way I am, then that's the way I plan to be — me, a crazy, unpredictable, lightly schizophrenic tree-hugger.



EDUCATION IS DIRECT ACTION

By Beth Merrill

If you are thinking a year ahead, sow seed. If you are thinking ten years ahead, plant a tree. If you are thinking one hundred years ahead, educate the people.
-Chinese proverb

While a great deal of effort is needed immediately to halt further destruction of the natural world in the form of tree sitting, tree spiking and other direct actions, we also need to begin a massive campaign to educate the public (and especially children) about the tenets of Deep Ecology and about the goals and strategies of Earth First! to those ends.

Earth First! (and other groups) have succeeded now in getting media attention, some favorable and some not so favorable. But it will take a mass movement if we are ever to achieve the kind of wilderness to which Dave Foreman refers in "Dreaming Big Wilderness" (Lughnasadh edition).

Need some ideas for creative probation resulting from arrest for direct actions? Suggest public presentations as an alternative. Mass movements arise when people become aware of life threatening changes around them, and especially when they see the struggles of others to overcome them.

While public marches and demonstrations can be very helpful, actually getting into classrooms and other public forums to make formal or informal presentations can do a great deal. Short of hands to pound spikes? Try getting some slide presentations together to present to your local colleges and universities. Since Earth First! is the only "organization" around which supports natural ecosystems where indigenous peoples can pursue their traditional lifestyles, anthropology (or sociology) courses are a good place to start, as well as the other social and natural sciences. However, I would call on local Earth First! groups to get into elementary, junior high and high school classrooms as well. Perhaps the next generation will be more sensitive to environmental destruction and to the importance of preserving and protecting our ecosystems.

What about Kiwanis clubs, Lions clubs, church groups and other "establishment"-type groups? Get these people on your side and you have a mass movement underway. No stone should be left unturned, since education is direct action too!

Beth Merrill is an Assistant Professor of Anthropolgy at Oregon State University.

NEMESIS NEWS NET

By Australopithicus

The Radicalization of Ranger Rick

National Wildlife Federation's *Ranger Rick* magazine has finally printed an article with enough bite in it to anger land ravagers. Ranger Rick has asked us to eat peanut butter sandwiches instead of beef! The March issue of *Ranger Rick* features a fine article by Gerry Bishop which explains to children readers and ranchers (it's good to know that ranchers are followers of "The Adventures of Ranger Rick"), that many livestock owners are irresponsible, greedy, and destructive in their practice of grazing their animals on public land. Due to this mild criticism, NWF has received angry complaints from numerous ranchers and livestock organizations and publications, including the *National Wool Grower* which retaliated against this "fiasco" of an article with their own "Rancher Ram" article. Additionally, overgrazing proponents launched a letter campaign protesting NWF's criticism of ranchers. To counter the infantile reaction of livestock interests, EF! readers should write to NWF expressing support for Gerry Bishop's criticism of livestock owners and overgrazing. Write to National Wildlife Federation, 1412 16th St. NW, Washington, DC 20036.

Motorcyclers Threaten Fort Sage Mountain

Motorcyclers plan to build a trailhead park in the Ft. Sage Mtn. area of southern Lassen County, California. The BLM intends to cater to the wishes of these heathen, even though public opposition to the invasion of the infernal motorcycles is strong. Readers can help by writing letters expressing their revilement at the BLM's approval of the project. Send to Secretary Donald Hodel, Department of Interior, Washington, DC 20240. For more information contact Russ Winje, POB 54, Doyle, CA 96109 (916-827-2739).

Good News for Mono Lake

Gulls at Mono Lake are having much better success with their offspring this year than last year: last year 5500 chicks survived; this year19,800 survived. Also, the USFS has agreed to grant $125,000 to the National Academy of Science this fall to study effects of water diversions on Mono Lake's ecosystem. Write to the Mono Lake Committee (POB 29, Lee Vining, CA 93541; 619-647-6386) for more info.

BLM Abuses Wild Horses

The Animal Protection Institute has filed suit in a Nevada federal court against the BLM for cruel treatment of wild horses occurring during a round-up that began last January. API blames not those employed in the round-up, but high officials in DC who have ordered a massive capture program — 17,000 horses — without providing adequate facilities for the horses. API thinks that the BLM is intentionally making adoption of horses difficult so that they can auction the horses. Auctioned horses generally go to slaughterhouses, eventually filling the bellies of wealthy foreign consumers.

Federal Judge Forces NPS to Protect Its Parks

Environmentalists won a major lawsuit in late July when Judge James von der Heydt ordered the Park Service to close 30 mines operating within 7 Alaskan Parks. The mines, which caused severe ecological disturbances, must be closed by early September and the NPS may not issue any more mining permits without environmental assessments, as it had been doing. This court victory for wildlife could set a precedent for Parks thoughout the US.

US-backed Government Invades Natives' Land

Resistance by native peoples to a massive hydro-electric project, mining and commercial logging has triggered a military invasion of the Cordillera Mountains of northern Luzon in the Philippines. The multinational development projects, funded by the World Bank, the West German Government and wealthy associates of Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos, have encountered opposition from over a dozen Negrito tribes whose traditional lands are threatened. Protesters have been labelled "subversive," and at least one tribal spokesperson has been assassinated by government troops.

Recently, military aircraft have randomly bombed villages while army troops have established roadblocks, arrested and tortured suspected opponents, and begun to remove tribal Filipinos to "strategic hamlets" under military guard. A plea for peace and justice issued by tribal elders warned that "We shall shed blood if only to defend our ancestors' domains from their desecration by the military."

One of the hardest hit tribes has been the Atta, who now suffer malnutrition after having been forced off their lands. For more info on the Atta and other threatened indigenous peoples throughout the world and how you can oppose their decimation, write for bulletins of Survival International, 29 Craven St., London, WC2N 5NT, England. Also write to President F.E. Marcos (Malacanang Palace, Metro Manila, Philippines) to protest the militarization of tribal lands in the northern Cordillera of Luzon. It is especially important for Americans to protest against these injustices because US military and economic aid to the Philippines supports the government.

trees in the Waiakea forest area. Fortunately, for now its financial hardships will prevent Bio-Power from clearing the 3300 acres of ohia trees.

Freddies Fail to Admit Falsification of Records

Following reports by Forest Service employees that the FS had falsified records about its woefully inadequate replanting activities in California, the incorrigible Freddies undertook a review of these claims of falsification. However, in their review they failed to find any wrongdoing in their own activities. Representative Jim Weaver has since explained that this inadequate review was simply "a bureaucratic excuse" to allow the FS to continue its abysmal forestry practices.

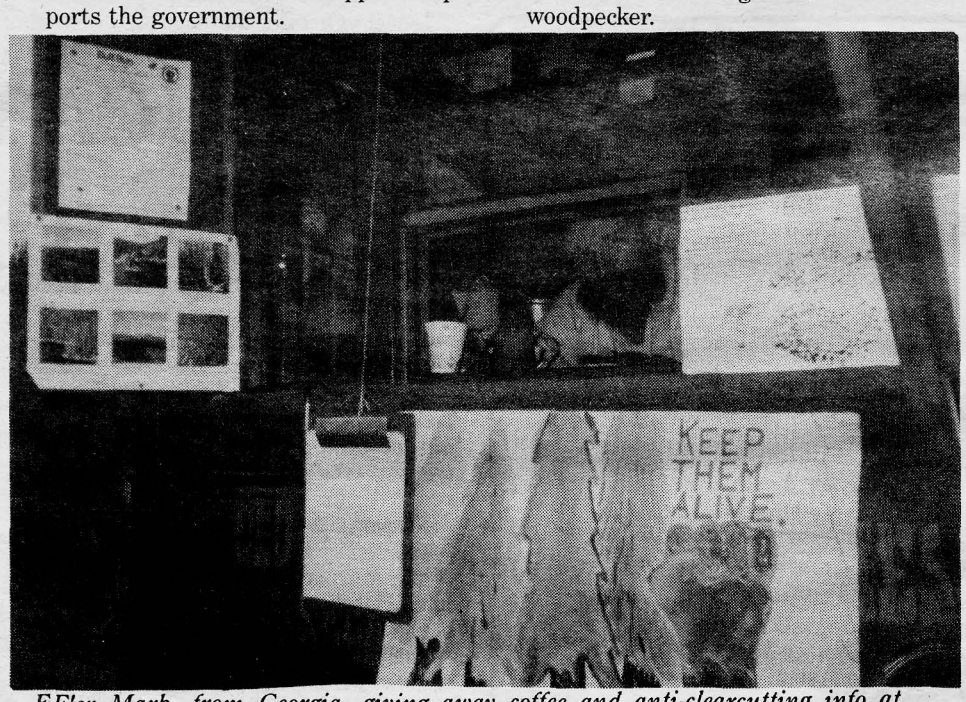
Southern Bears Need Your Help

The bear population in the southern Appalachians has drastically declined due to over-hunting, poaching, and poor game management. Anyone having information regarding changing game laws and regulations, please contact Paul Gallimore, Long Branch Environmental Education Center, Rt.2, Box 132, Leicester, NC 28748.

"We plan to initiate steps to increase public awareness of our native wildlife, in hopes that increased appreciation will help save our wild brethren and pressure officials to pass ecologically-sound game management legislation. Any information on bears, their populations and management is appreciated."

Judge Limits Forest Service Cutting in Wilderness Areas

District Judge Gerhard Gesell, in response to a suit filed by The Wilderness Society and Sierra Club chapters, stopped the Freddies from clearing pine forests in Mississippi, Lousiana, and Arkansas in order to fight pine beetles. Unfortunately, however, the decision allows limited cutting where such cutting will (according to the FS) protect habitat of the endangered red cockaded woodpecker.



EF!er Mark, from Georgia, giving away coffee and anti-clearcutting info at Summit Ski Area rest stop, OR, Labor Day as part of Bull Run campaign. Photo by Ron Huber.

Strategically-set Fire May Prevent Ohia Forest Destruction

Eight months ago some noble deviant(s) set fire to equipment of Bio-Power Corporation, a cutter of wood chips used for generating electricity on Big Island (Hawaii). Bio-Power had planned to cut 3300 acres of old-growth ohia trees on the Campbell Estate. So successful was the pyro-tactician, that Bio-Power lost $6.5 million in the fire and is now filing for bankruptcy. However, due to our country's lax bankruptcy laws, Bio-Power will reorganize and return to life (as cancers and corporations are wont to do) to fell eucalyptus

Peace Activists Monkeywrench Project ELF

Activists from Minnesota and Wisconsin have used saws to dismantle portions of Project ELF in Wisconsin. These activists, some of whom now face charges, are trying to awaken the public to the fact that the 54 miles of antenna lines of ELF not only are being built at the expense of Wisconsin and Michigan forests, but also that these lines will be part of a 1st-strike nuclear weapons system.

Sluggo Slays Canabis Cultivator

A Freddie law officer (a Sluggo) shot and killed a man suspected of growing marijuana in Sierra Nevada timber country in Butte County, California. This shooting suggests that authorities in the federal and state attack on California's lucrative marijuana business ("weedeaters") will take actions far more aggressive than any described in the EPA's recent (and hefty!) EIS on the canabis eradication program.

Yellowstone Bears May Be Dying For Black-Market

Federal investigators and the US Fish and Wildlife Service are continuously uncovering extensive and lucrative trading in rare animals within the US and between traders in illegal goods throughout the world. Species being poached for the illegal market include song birds in Europe; birds, primates, big cats, and reptiles from tropical countries; and mountain lions, bighorn sheep, mule deer, elk, and bears from the US. Several countries appear to be especially bad in allowing the trade in rare animals; Bolivia, Peru, the Federal Republic of Germany, and Japan are among the worst. The US also is guilty of failing to stop this destructive trade. Indeed, evidence now suggests that Yellowstone bears are being poached to supply the illegal market in gall bladders.

Canada Seeks to Undermine International Wildlife Protection

Now that Canada is headed by Brian Mulroney, a man who displays ignorance and ineptness almost on a par with Ronald Ray-Gun, Canada is becoming an international disgrace in its callous disregard for ecological protection. The 1985 Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) demonstrated the Canadian government's backwardness. CITES has the purpose of setting guidelines to regulate or stop wildlife trade which jeopardizes endangered species. Yet repeatedly during the '85 meeting, Canada objected to adding species to Appendix I. (Appendix I species receive maximum protection; Appendix II species receive fairly extensive protection; Appendix III is the weakest protective category.) Of course, the US — friendly neighbor that it is — supported Canada's anti-environmental designs. Fortunately, Canada did not prevail in all of its evil plans, and environmentalists at CITES were pleased that on the last day of meetings, over Canada's objections, North American gryfalcons and unlisted species of cranes were added to Appendix I.

Big Max Is Overruled

The Secretary of Agriculture, John Block, has overruled Forest Service Chief R. Max Peterson by rejecting as inadequate two 50 year forest management plans for 4 Colorado National Forests. The Agriculture Secretary is forcing Max and his Freddies to prove the economic benefits of its road-building and deficit timber sales in the San Juan, Gunnison, Grand Mesa, and Uncompahgre National Forests before it allows Louisiana-Pacific to ravage the beautiful aspen groves for waferwood.

Paradoxically, however, the Agriculture Department's aversion to deficit timber sales — and most sales in Colorado, Wyoming, and Montana do lose money — increases pressure to cut old-growth forests in the Northwest. It seems that the most we can hope for from any of these pro-development federal agencies is that economic concerns will convince them to delay the devastation of certain regions until the most lucrative regions are wasted.

Meares Island Activists Publish Book

Environmentalists who have succeeded in at least postponing the deforestation of Meares Island in British Columbia now have succeeded in producing a beautiful and informative book, *Meares Island: Protecting a Natural Paradise*. To obtain a copy and help the fight to preserve Meares Island, send $12 to Friends of Clayoquot Sound, PO Box 489, Tofino, B.C. VOR 2Z0, Canada.

Letter Writing Action

As usual, there is a depressingly large

array of issues which need our epistolary attention now. California and Arizona EF!ers in particular need to start writing. Addresses of US representatives are : Rep. _____, House of Representatives, Washington, DC 20515. Addresses of US senators are Sen. _____, Senate, Washington, DC 20510. The Secretary of Interior is: Secretary Donald Hodel, Dept. of Interior, Washington, DC 20240.

*Arizona residents: 1. Complain to Park Superintendent Richard Marks (POB 129, Grand Canyon, AZ 86023) about the aircraft traffic in and above the Grand Canyon.

2. Voice your opposition to the proposed Canyon uranium mine to Dennis Lund, Kaibab National Forest, 800 S. 6th St., Williams, AZ 86046.

3. Send letters to Supervisor Robert Tippeconnic, Coronado National Forest, 301 W. Congress, Tucson, AZ 85701 expressing your opinion that all of Mt. Graham should be preserved as Wilderness with no observatory atop its summit, and that all of the Peloncillos should be designated as Wilderness.

4. Write to the EPA - Region 9 (Dave Howecamp, Air Quality, 215 Fremont St., San Francisco, CA 94105) asking for a denial of the Non Ferrous Smelter Order — a federal exemption from the Clean Air Act — for the Phelps Dodge smelter in Douglas.

*California residents: 1. Ask your members of the US House of Representitives and US Senate to oppose the Auburn Dam and Folsom-South Canal projects on the lower American River.

2. Ask members of the California assembly (State Capitol, Sacramento, CA 95814) to support S.B. 76 to extend the ban on killing mountain lions.

3. Ask US rep. Charles Pashayan and your own representative to reject amendments weakening the Wild & Scenic River Act and ask them to grant Wild & Scenic status to the entire 78.5 miles of the North Fork Kern.

4. Ask legislators to oppose the Keating dam project and to seek inclusion of the Merced River in the Wild & Scenic River System.

5. Ask state representatives to support the Connally bill (Bill 2582) on hazardous wastes.

*US residents: 1. Write to your representative asking her or him to vote for reauthorization of a stronger Superfund, and to oppose the weak Superfund bill HR 2817. Rep. James Florio's bill, HR 2560, is decent and needs cosponsors.

2. Write to Secretary Donald Hodel asking that the western yellow-billed cuckoo (no relation to Mr. Reagan) and the least Bell's vireo be listed as endangered, and that their habitat along California rivers be preserved.

3. Ask Senator Robert Stafford (Chair, Committee on Environment and Public Works) and Representative Walter Jones (Chair, Committee on Merchant Marine and Fisheries) to strengthen the Endangered Species Act, now up for reauthorization, and to add to the ESA strict protection for candidate species. Also write to senators (especially John Chafee, chair of the Senate subcommittee responsible for the ESA) demanding that the ESA not be weakened by any amendment that would allow more hunting of endangered species.

4. Ask legislators to drop PURPA incentives for new hydroelectric projects. Also ask them to support changes in the range of issues considered during hydroelectric licensing and relicensing which would require FERC (Federal Energy Regulatory Commission) to thoroughly evaluate the environmental impacts of water projects and to consult with fish and wildlife agencies in determining how best to regulate dams. Urge senators to support the Evans/Metzenbaum amendment which would force FERC to give greater weight to environmental considerations.

4. Tell legislators, especially Morris Udall, and John Herrington (Secretary, Dept. of Energy, Independence Ave., Washington, DC 20585) and Donald Hodel that the Canyonlands area of Utah must be preserved and eliminated from consideration as a site for a nuclear waste repository.

5. Write to Senators asking that they follow the lead of the House in voting to reduce the Forest Service road-building budget and increase the trails budget.

6. Ask legislators to support provisions of a 1985 Farm bill that protects erodible land and wetlands from agriculture and that promotes organic farming.

7. Ask legislators and Robert Burford (Director, BLM, Washington, DC 20240) to protect all of the Owyhee Canyonlands in Nevada, Idaho, and Oregon, as Wilderness.

8. Urge legislators to impose economic sanctions against Japan and any other whaling country until they stop whaling. Ask Malcolm Baldridge (Secretary, Commerce Dept., Washington, DC 20240) to revoke Japan's fishing rights in US waters until Japan ceases whaling.

9. Ask legislators to support House Joint Resolution 3 to resume negotiations on a Comprehensive Test Ban Treaty.

10. Tell senators to abolish the Synthetic Fuels Corporation.

11. Tell representatives to oppose HR 1934 which would weaken the law regulating coal leases. Insist that stricter environmental protection provisions be added to leasing laws.

12. Ask representatives to co-sponsor HR 1888 and senators to co-sponsor S 826 to stop New York's Westway highway from being built.

13. Urge legislators to support strong cost-sharing requirements for federal water projects of the Army Corps of Engineers.

*Earth citizens: 1. Write to Executive Director (your country), World Bank, 1818 H St., NW, Washington, DC 20433 USA. Send a copy of the letter to A.W. Clausen, President, World Bank at same address. In the letter, suggest that it is essential for the World Bank to adopt and enforce strong environmental protection provisions for its lending policies, at least as strong as those proposed by the US Treasury Department.

2. Write to Prime Minister Bob Hawke (Parliament House Canberra 2600, Australia) asking that he reverse his decision not to nominate the Queensland wet tropics for World Heritage listing.

3. Tell Barry Cohen (Environmental Minister, Parliament House, Canberra ACT 2601, Australia) to preserve all Tasmanian rainforests and to enact strict woodchip export license restrictions.

4. Request from Campaign Against Nuclear Waste Dumping in the Pacific (Japanese Catholic Council for Justice and Peace, 10-1 Rokubancho, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 102, Japan) petitions protesting Japan's plans to dump nuclear waste in the Pacific Ocean (600 miles north of the Mariana Islands).

5. Send a letter opposing the New Ishigaki Airport, which would damage the Shiraho Coral Reef, to The Okinawa Development Agency, 1-6-1 Negatacho, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo, Japan.

EARTH FIRST! TAX COMMITTEE FORMS

At the Round River Rendezvous, a group of Earth First!ers got together to work on land preservation from a standpoint of tax laws, economics (let free enterprise work!), and conservation easements. For information and to offer your help, contact Charlotte Neyland, 613 Elm St., Coffeyville, KS 67337 (316)251-2363.

The Earth First! Directory is being revised and will appear in the next issue. Marcy Willow, who has coordinated the Directory and Local EF! Groups, is moving to Iceland, and Bob Kaspar is taking over as EF! Local Groups Coordinator. Please contact Bob at POB 37, Glen Haven, WI 53810 (608) 794-2373 if you wish to be listed as a local EF! contact or if you wish to organize an EF! group in your area.

YELLOWSTONE BEARS PROTEST AGAIN

This summer Earth First! declared war on the Reaganites' mismanagement of national parks and national forests which are essential habitat of our most magnificent land mammal — the grizzly bear, Ursus horribilis. Earth First held 2 major series of actions aimed at awakening the public to the threatened status of the grizzly bear, and pressuring officials to correct bad policies and practices which allow the destruction of grizzly habitat. Our actions were effective, yet more campaigns are needed to stop annihilation of grizzly bears by the US Fish and Wildlife Service — the agency most to blame for the demise of the grizzly, insofar as it is this agency which is responsible for enforcement of the Endangered Species Act — the Forest Service, and the National Park Service — arguably the least destructive of these 3 agencies in its handling of the bear situation. In short, the Reagan Administration, at the cabinet and departmental levels is causing the extinction of the grizzly . . . so we must stop them.

Due to a shortage of time and activists, Yellowstone EF!ers will wait until the next issue of *EF!* to give a more complete report of the threats to the Greater Yellowstone Ecosystem and what actions EF! has taken and will take to end these threats. For now we will simply briefly mention the actions we took on August 11 and 12. We had planned our actions on behalf of grizzlies and Yellowstone for August 11, so naturally we were pleased when we learned that Secretary of Interior (Scoundrel of Interior) Donald Hodel would be in our neighborhood at Yellowstone that day. Listening to Hodel speak angered us; Hodel said the grizzly is recovering. We pointed out to him why this is a patently absurd claim. We bombarded Hodel with questions, which he answered poorly if at all. The next day, EF! in various ways protested the Forest Service decision to allow the development of Ski Yellowstone. We protested Ski Yellowstone because this resort would further destroy the Yellowstone Ecosystem and crucial bear habitat. Ski Yellowstone planners have already violated their permit twice in the last year, yet the FS does nothing to stop them.

EF! needs more people to help fight to save Yellowstone, the grizzly, and all other wildlife in this spectacular region. If you'd be willing to help, or if you want more information on these issues, contact Joe Woodelf, c/o 718 S 12th, Bozeman, MT 59715.

EARTH RANGER
LOOKS LIKE ONE OF THEM'S GOTTEN BACK INTO THE AREA
YEP, A LONE MALE. WE'LL HAVE TO TAKE HIM OUT OF HERE. GET YOUR TRANQUILIZER GUN READY
TIME: DAYBREAK
PLACE: YELLOWSTONE NATIONAL PARK
POW
LET'S WEIGH 'IM AND TAG 'IM. I'LL CALL THE CHOPPER TO TAKE HIM BACK TO HIS HOME RANGE
SURE IS AN UGLY SUCKER
TAKE A LOOK AT HIS GIRTH!
DAMN TOURISTS JUST CAN'T STAY OUT OF GRIZZLY BEAR HABITAT
ALRIGHT, LET'S FLY 'IM BACK TO NEW JERSEY
CHRISTOPH MANES

UNIFYING THE COLORADO PLATEAU

By Grant Johnson

The finest view I have ever witnessed was from the summit of Navajo Mountain, the center of the Colorado Plateau. It stands not only as a tombstone for Glen Canyon, but as a sentinel for myriad canyons; a focal point for the arteries and capillaries of the most colorful creative erosion on this side of Earth.

As the cancer of European man spread like mold across the cheese of North America, the canyonlands were rarely penetrated. When they were, the explorers worked their way through the maze preoccupied with a fear of being repelled by impenetrable barriers. After the Civil War, the US government felt so insecure about this vast, unmapped area that they sent Major John Wesley Powell out to chart the great unknown. Then the Mormon pioneers, busily settling the Eastern Great Basin, pushed into the western edge of the Colorado drainage where water could be diverted from the mountains to irrigate crops to feed all of the hungry mouths — cattle and sheep.

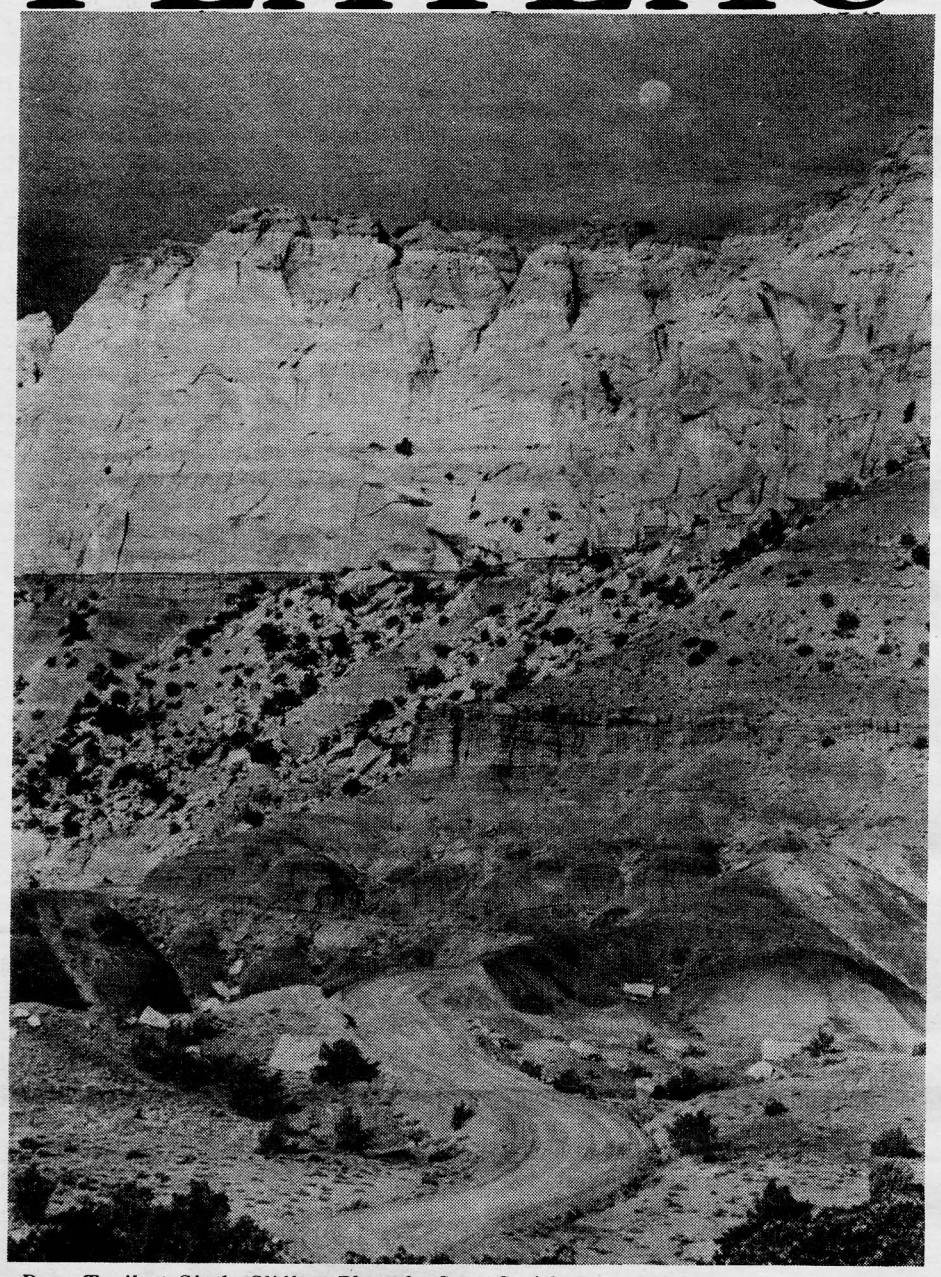
Brigham Young, the Mormon leader, was worried about the "empty" land being settled by "nonsaints" so he informed the most hardy pioneers along the Mormon Belt (Wasatch Front) that they must leave behind their new homes and fields (for the tender newcomers) and go on a "mission" to settle the wildlands and tame the "savages" who inhabited the "unexplored" country. This "Hole in the Rock" expedition would never have happened if the people had been left to do it for themselves. It was their tenacious faith, Brigham's brow, and the Escalante bretheren's grain (sold to them at 5 times the going rate) that helped them survive the rough winter while chisling a way down to the Colorado River. Thus Bluff and Blanding were created.

For nearly 70 years, livestock and agriculture were all that sustained the isolated communities until uranium was discovered in the Morrison and Chinle Formations. The roading, drilling and mining of the canyons began in the 1950's with government-sponsored capital incentives. Much of the land was never reached and much has since reclaimed itself due to the erosive nature of the clays on which most roads were built.

The first roads from Poison Springs across the Dirty Devil River and up Happy Canyon to join the new road down the Flint Trail above the Maze were bulldozed by Tenneco for tar sands exploration.

Glen Canyon Damn was built from 1957 to 1964. High water in 1983 flooded the heart of the Canyon Country. In the 1970's, paved highways were built from Blanding to Hanksville through flooded Hite, and to Hall's Crossing and Bullfrog Marinas. I-70 split the San Rafael Swell country in half where no roads had been previously. The Fremont River Canyon through Capitol Reef National Park was ravaged by the construction of a paved road, and this year in Canyonlands National Park, the old winding dirt road that unwound people by slowly guiding their vehicles out to Grandview Point was traded for a modern highway designed to mainline roadrally tourists into the Island in the Sky for a grand view 3,000 feet above the two rivers that merge to form the aorta of the Colorado Plateau . . . . And now they want to pave the Burr Trail!

Mining and extensive drilling were done after 1975 south of the Henry Mountains by Exxon and Consumer Power who built a 700 ton-a-day uranium mill and leased a state section for a new "town" called Ticaboo. Now the State of Utah wants 3,000 acres of BLM land in the area for development.



Burr Trail at Circle Cliffs. Photo by Scott Smith.

Page, Arizona, was built not only for the construction of Glen Canyon Dam, but also for the Navajo Power Plant which is supplied by the Black Mesa strip mine via a 75 mile-long coal hauling quain.

Energy Fuels Nuclear (owned by a group of Swedish millionaires) built a 5,000-ton-a-day uranium mill south of Blanding on White Mesa. I witnessed the D-8 bulldozers push 1,000 year-old freshly excavated Anasazi ruins into piles of rubble to accomodate the ponds which would store radioactive wastes forever above the water table of the Paiute tribe (who were garrisoned by the Mormons on this site after the last Indian battle in the US in 1923) living several miles south in square government housing on White Mesa. Energy Fuels Nuclear now has plans for another mill next to the Paria-Hackberry Wilderness Study Area (WSA) to process their new uranium discoveries on both sides of the Grand Canyon.

Calvin Black, San Juan County Commissioner, has been trying for some time to privatize 160 acres of BLM land next to Natural Bridges National Monument at the junction of highways 95 and 261 (the road across Cedar Mesa). Now the State of Utah wants 5,000 acres in their land exchange with the BLM here for developmental purposes.

Coal mines and powerplants are a continual threat because of coal deposits around the Henry Mountains, in the Bookcliffs, under the entire Kaiparowits region, and in the Alton Hills below Bryce Canyon National Park. Already developed with mines and powerplants are the cliffs northeast of the San Rafael Swell and on the opposite side of the Colorado Plateau in the Four Corners region.

Tar sands, an extremely unprofitable oil source (unless paid for by Federal government subsidies), are a major threat in the lower Dirty Devil — part of the Canyonlands National Park/Glen Canyon National Recreation Area region. Another 50,000 acres in the Circle Cliffs, headwaters of the lower eastern Escalante tributaries, are also proposed for tar sands development. Not even a dirt road separates this untouched country from Capitol Reef National Park on the east and Glen Canyon NRA on the south.

This country for the most part has not produced profit. Uranium, oil and coal explorations are a corporate tax write-off. In the 1950's, the government created high uranium prices and subsidized exploration to spur the atomic era. Mills were built in the 1970's that never paid for themselves — like Consumer Power's Ticaboo Mill and Energy Fuels Nuclear's "White Mesa Project." These two are now shut down along with Rio Algon's in Lisbon Valley and the extensively rebuilt Atlas Mill in Moab. The "losses" these corporations "suffered" were paid for by the taxpayers.

The Dixie National Forest is in the midst of an extensive roading and logging "Pine Beetle Control Program" in virgin Ponderosa pine roadless areas under the Aquarius Plateau (headwaters of the Escalante River). According to The Wilderness Society's study on deficit timber sales, the USFS looses 98 cents on every dollar they spend.

To complicate matters, the government has divided responsibility of vast roadless areas among several different agencies, segmenting them by bureaucratic boundaries into smaller roadless areas, studying them individually, and discarding most. For example:

* Canyonlands National Park was arbitrarily created in the center of a huge federally-owned roadless area and left pieces of a National Forest and various BLM parcels outside. Glen Canyon NRA also abuts the Park. Now the Energy Department is considering placing the first high level nuclear waste dump one and a half miles from the Park boundary, inside the true roadless area.

*Arches National Park's roadless areas adjoin BLM units equal to what is inside the Park. Uranium interests have so far hindered Wilderness consideration for these areas.

*Capitol Reef National Park is a vast, remote wilderness *because* of the surrounding wildlands administered by the BLM, Forest Service, and Glen Canyon NRA.

The million acres of the lower Escalante includes the south third of Capitol Reef NP, part of Glen Canyon NRA, and seven BLM units (five of which were thrown out in the inventory from Wilderness Study Area status for absurdities such as "no topographical screening"). One such area of about 40,000 acres in the Circle Cliffs, thrown out for no topographical screening, was suggested suitable for tar sands development by the BLM in their draft EIS on tar sands due to topographic features that would hide the destruction from the surrounding Parklands and the Escalante Canyons WSA.

The central Capitol Reef roadless area is dwarfed by large adjoining National Forest and BLM areas. The BLM's Steep Creek WSA was trimmed on the west up to The Gulch for uranium speculation and on the south to make it appear separate from the Escalante Canyons WSA. In fact, only a dirt road (the Burr Trail), with no side spurs or developments, passes through this integral part of the Escalante Canyons that twist and gorge up into Boulder Mountain. Dixie National Forest threw out their part of this massive roadless area in RARE I, for no apparent reason, then lit a "controlled burn" on a dry windy day in 1977 on Indian Bench that burned 7,000 acres of mostly Ponderosa pine growing around and above five major slickrock canyons. Then Strong Brothers Construction, working on a new Boulder Mountain Highway, was hired to bulldoze "fireroads" to help 200 firefighters on location. The fire burned past the "roads" and ended at the edge of Oak Creek Canyon. Next followed an "Emergency Timber Sale" to "salvage" the dead wood. Most of the trees cut were not dead. Now, eight years later, logging is still going on with more roads planned into areas that were never touched by the fire. Environmentalists are reluctant to protect forest in an area famous for its red rock.

This forest is the headwaters of some of the most spectacular canyons that run south into the Escalante and east through Capitol Reef. Elk, bear, and cougar,to mention a few, depend on the continuum of wildernesss in which to live. Several years ago a bull moose was seen heading south. It was speculated that he had wandered down from the Manti/LaSalle National Forest looking for new territory.

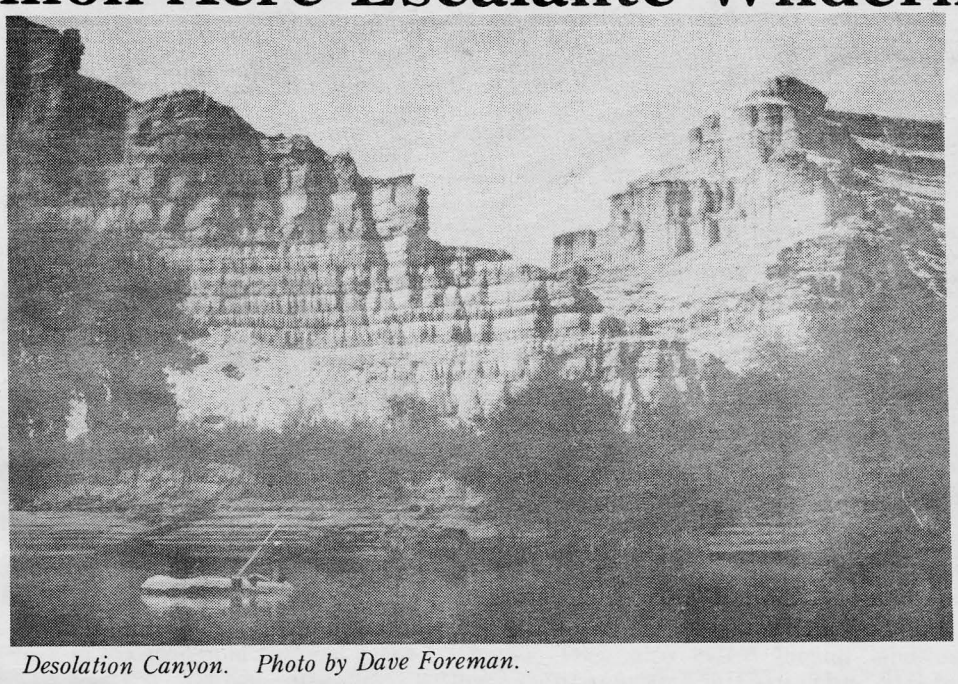
The north end of Capitol Reef National Park ends too soon as the equally spectacular San Rafael Reef carries on the slickrock and colored clay desert for another 75 miles. The San Rafael Swell is a vast wilderness segmented by roads that cut through in several places. Some uranium exploration and mining has occured but most of the area is wilderness. This incredible area deserves National Park status and has not been dealt with justly in the BLM WSA process.

Zion National Park's southeastern end is roadless and abuts the BLM Cannaan Mountain and Parunaweep WSAs.

continued on pg. 21

EF! PROPOSES 16 MILLION ACRES OF BLM WILDERNESS IN UTAH

3 Million Acre Escalante Wilderness!



Desolation Canyon. Photo by Dave Foreman.

The State of Utah contains one of the most enthralling displays of primitive landscape on Earth. Although Utah has a relatively large percentage of its federal land in National Parks and National Forests, much of the most spectacular, biotically important, and pristine wilderness is managed by the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). And in few other places in the United States is so much wildness under attack (see Grant Johnson's accompanying article).

Earth First! has focused on the wild and threatened BLM lands of Utah on several occasions. The BLM's wilderness review process is now coming to a climax and your input in strong support of a *visionary* Wilderness preservation plan is essential. The Utah Wilderness Association is recommending that 3.8 million acres of BLM lands in Utah be recommended to Congress for Wilderness designation. They say that their proposal is a pragmatic, politically feasible and defensible one. In other words, they have made many compromises already. The Sierra Club, Wilderness Society, Southern Utah Wilderness Association and other groups are proposing that 5 million acres of BLM land be designated as Wilderness. This proposal is good as far as it goes, but is still mired in the desire to appear "credible," to play the Wilderness game by the rules established by the BLM (actually by Exxon, the San Juan County Commission, the livestock industry, and off-road-vehicle dolts). There is little vision in this proposal as well.

But the vision is there. In the land. The redrock canyons, stone arches, hanging gardens of delight, restful copses of cottonwoods beside desert pools, vast empty silence-filled basins and ranges, and thundering rivers have all the magic, all the dreams one could ever desire. They deserve better than business as usual, better than acquiescence in the legitimatization of roads that never should have been built, better than collaboration with the storm troopers of industrial tyranny. It is time that we as conservationists reached back to the mythic figures of modern conservation — Bob Marshall and Aldo Leopold — who proposed a 9 million acre Wilderness National Park in southern Utah in 1938. It is time we respond to the BLM's wilderness review not with carefully crafted political pragmatism, but with the love and pain this surrealistic landscape inflicts in our eyes, hearts, and feet. With the sorrow and passion found in the writings of Edward Abbey. And in Grant Johnson's words in this issue.

We have tried to devise a visionary Wilderness proposal for the BLM lands of Utah. We are sending it to BLM and we urge you to write in support of it to BLM. This proposal is yet a draft and no doubt needs fine-tuning. If you have comments, additions, deletions, etc. for it, please send them to us in Tucson. After BLM issues its final Wilderness recommendation, the Utah Congressional Delegation, with all the wisdom, thoughtfulness and judgment of a Sherman tank, will begin jerking an entirely inadequate bill through Congress. At that time, the EF! proposal should be complete and we will need to organize strong suppport for it in letters to Congress and through other actions. Stay tuned. The battle for Utah should be as hard-fought as that for the Alaska Lands Bill.

A list of areas and acreages in the Earth First! proposal follows, but several of the areas deserve highlighting.

*ESCALANTE — We propose a 3,000,000 acre Wilderness in *one* unit here, including the Henry Mountains, Waterpocket Fold, Circle Cliffs, Escalante Canyons, Kaiparowits Plateau, Smoky Mountain, Wahweap Canyon, upper Paria River, and Pink Cliffs. In addition to BLM land, this internationally significant Wilderness proposal includes portions of Capitol Reef National Park, Glen Canyon National Recreation Area, Bryce Canyon National Park, and the Dixie National Forest. Roads to be closed include the Burr Trail and the Hole in the Rock road.

* DEATH HOLLOW/AQUARIUS PLATEAU — This 750,000 acre Wilderness is primarily made up of Dixie National Forest land including Boulder Mountain and the lake-studded subalpine Aquarius Plateau, as well as BLM's Phipps/Death Hollow WSA. It includes a small already-designated Wilderness Area.

* WESTERN DESERT — We propose several large areas in Utah's Great Basin which will require the closure of a variety of dirt roads. Too often conservationists give short shrift to the austere empty spaces of western Utah. Outstanding huge Wildernesses can be designated here.

* CANYONLANDS — This extraordinary area of 2,500,000 acres includes Canyonlands National Park and portions of Glen Canyon National Recreation Area, and the Manti-LaSal National Forest (including a small Dark Canyon Wilderness Area). Features are the Dirty Devil River, the Maze, the Needles, Cataract Canyon, Dark Canyon, Labyrinth and Stillwater Canyons on the Green, the Island in the Sky, and the San Rafael Desert. Roads to the Needles, Grandview Point, and Mineral Bottom will remain as corridors. Power boats will be banned from the Colorado and Green Rivers.

* SAN RAFAEL SWELL — Two units of 1,000,000 and 700,000 acres are divided by I-70. The larger southern unit includes a portion of Capitol Reef National Park, and Thousand Lake Mountain on the Manti-LaSal National Forest.

* ARCHES — This 200,000 acre unit includes Arches National Park (with several road corridors) and the surrounding BLM land.

* DESOLATION CANYON — This extremely diverse area of 2,200,000 acres includes Desolation Canyon on the Green River, the Book Cliffs, and the Roan Plateau. The roadless portion of the Uintah Indian Reservation is included. There is adjacent land in Colorado as well.

* GREAT SALT LAKE DESERT — One of the BLM's largest roadless areas has been virtually ignored by BLM and conservationists alike because it is "boring" salt flats. Earth First! doesn't think so (in fact our infamous picture in *Outside* was taken here). We propose two Wilderness units here divided by I-80. If, however, the salt flats become Bonneville Lake and close the Interstate, then this should be one Wilderness.

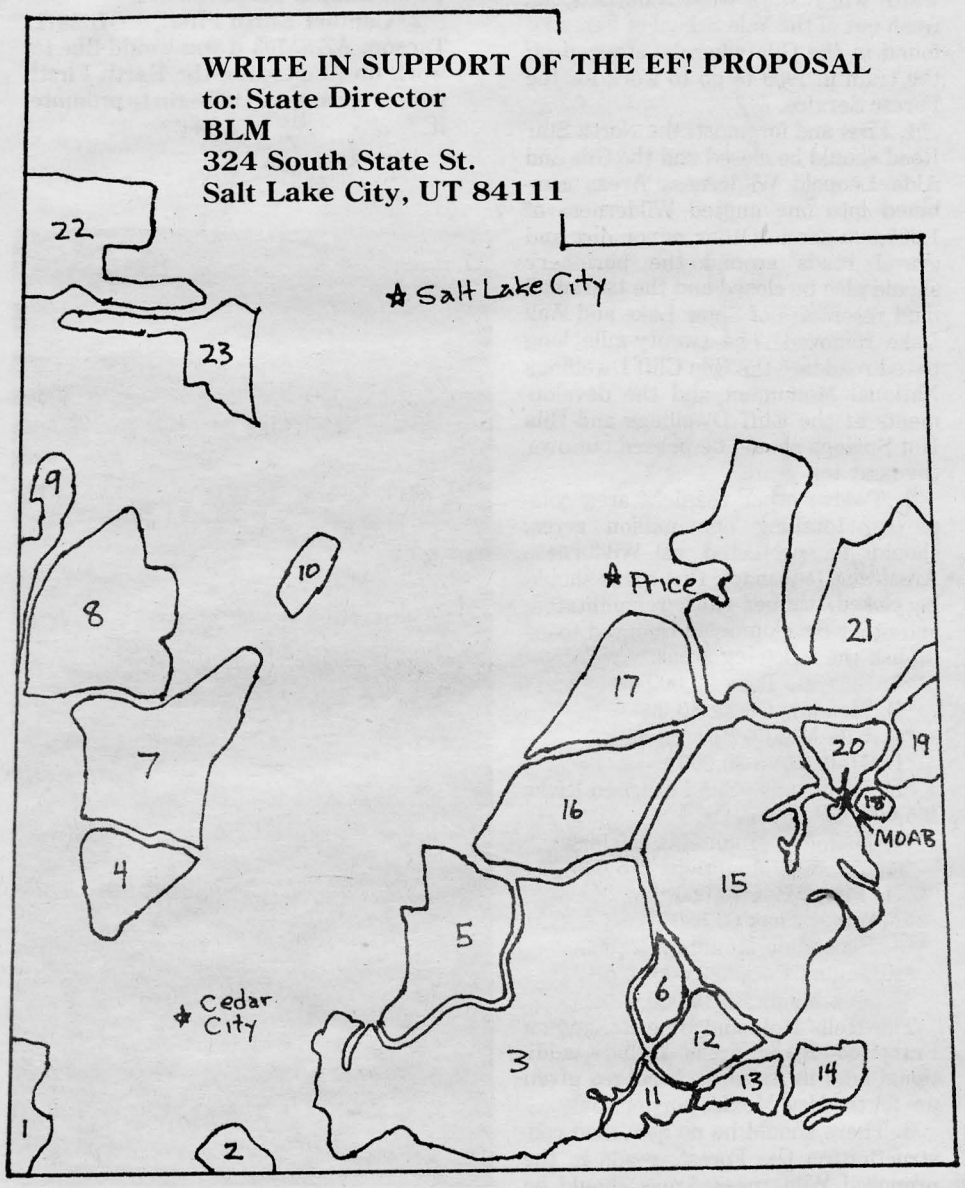
The total Earth First! Utah BLM Wilderness Proposal is approximately 16,000,000 acres, including about 2,500,000 acres of Forest Service, National Park, state, and private lands. All roads should be closed in each unit and other developments removed. The grazing of commerical livestock should be eliminated. Private and state lands should be acquired by the BLM. All areas should be withdrawn from all forms of appropriation under the mineral laws.

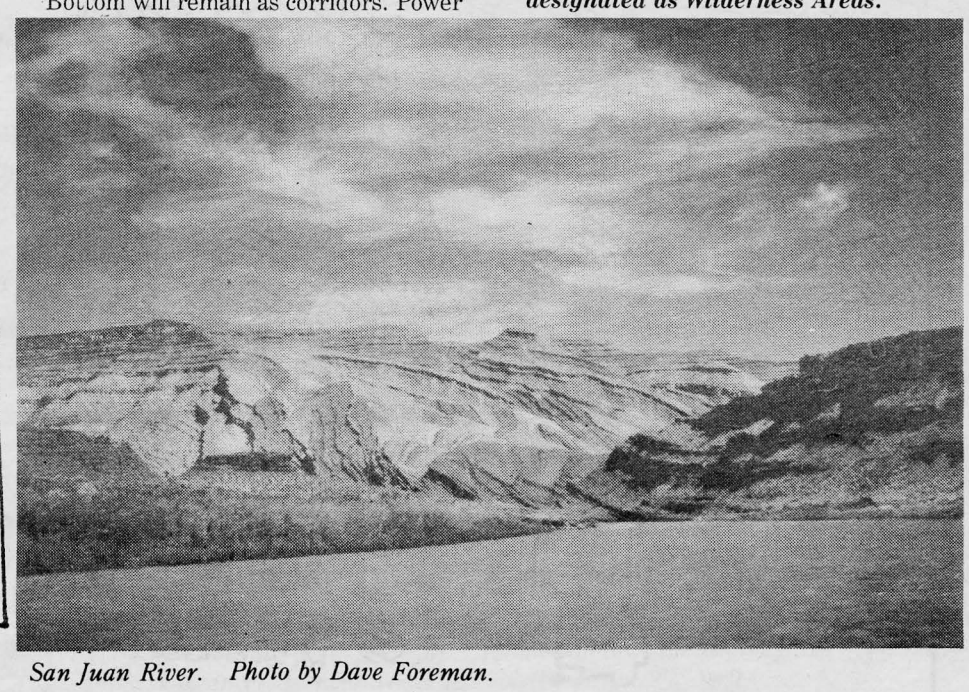
1. Beaver Dam Wash 230,000 acres*
2. Moquith Mountain 160,000*
3. Escalante 3,000,000
4. Wah Wah Mountains South 370,000
5. Death Hollow/Aquarius Plateau 750,000
6. Mt. Ellsworth 180,000
7. Sevier Lake/King Top 1,000,000
8. House Range 1,000,000
9. Deep Creek Range 200,000*
10. Little Sahara 130,000
11. Clay Hills 180,000
12. Moki Canyon 250,000
13. Grand Gulch 200,000
14. Fish Creek 250,000
15. Canyonlands 2,500,000
16. South San Rafael Swell 1,000,000
17. North San Rafael Swell 700,000
18. Negro Bill 40,000
19. Westwater Canyon 230,000*
20. Arches 200,000
21. Desolation Canyon 2,200,000*
22. North Salt Lake Desert 600,000*
23. South Salt Lake Desert 440,000

**Acreage given only for area in Utah; additional acreage in Nevada, Arizona, or Colorado. Acreages are not exact.*

All other BLM WSAs outside of these larger complexes should also be designated as Wilderness Areas.

WRITE IN SUPPORT OF THE EF! PROPOSAL
to: State Director
BLM
324 South State St.
Salt Lake City, UT 84111





San Juan River. Photo by Dave Foreman.

GILA PLAN: ROADS AND LOGGING

Earth First! Proposes 1.3 Million Acre Gila Wilderness

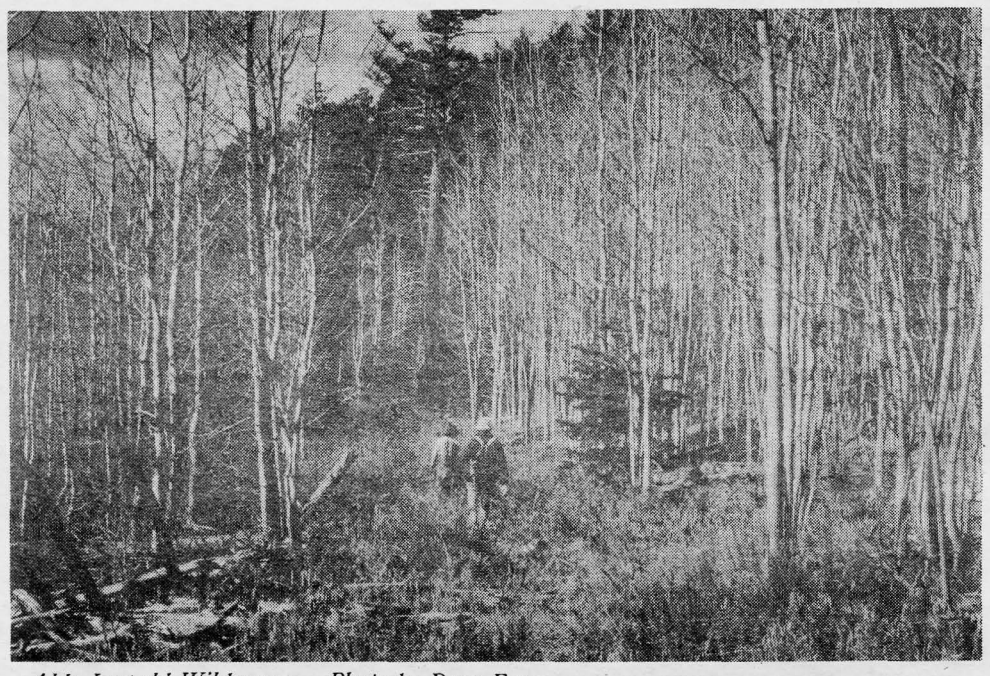
By Dave Foreman

Growing up in New Mexico, as I began to explore the wildernesses of the Sandia, Jemez, and Sangre de Cristo Mountains near Albuquerque, the Gila Wilderness far to the south took on mythic proportions in my mind. It was vast, remote, incomparably wild . . . and unknown. It became my Eldorado, my Ultima Thule. It was my Heart of Darkness, the center of my biosphere.

After its trails, canyons and ridges became familar to my foot, after its geography became embedded in my mind, the Gila lost only the "unknown." It remained as mysterious and fascinating after my many explorations as it had been when it was the beckoning, blank spot on the map.

I cut my conservation teeth on the Gila Wilderness and the wild, lightly developed National Forest of the same name surrounding it. In 1972, I took on the job of coordinating the New Mexico Wilderness Study Committee's taskforce on the Gila National Forest for RARE I — the first roadless area review and evaluation of the Forest Service — and got to know the other remaining roadless areas outside the great Wilderness. That fall, I helped to coordinate the conservation groups' development of a comprehensive new Wilderness proposal for the Gila Wilderness and the adjacent Gila Primitive Area.

I moved down to the Gila and lived there in a hundred-year-old adobe for eight years. Catron County, which includes much of the Gila, is one of the largest and least populated counties in the nation — its population density when I moved there in 1973 was one person for every three square miles. Most of the two thousand people were clustered in small hamlets; the majority of the county was uninhabited by humans. We drove 65 miles one way to the grocery store. In many respects, it was still the frontier.



Aldo Leopold Wilderness. Photo by Dave Foreman.

But we know that frontiers are to conquer. To the Forest Service the 3.3 million acres of the Gila National Forest (2.5 million acres outside of designated Wilderness Areas) is a particularly luscious frontier awaiting the bulldozer, chainsaw, and FORPLAN computer. Their recently released Forest Plan and Draft Environmental Impact Statement are no different than any of the others. It is the battleplan for the transformation of a relatively undeveloped open space and backcountry region into a managed human-centered landscape. It is the story of Virginia, Ohio, Texas and California writ again.

It is useless to argue with the Forest Service on their grounds, using their points of reference. They worship at the altar of the Great God of Technology and have a holy charge to make the forests and mountains march to their drum beat. We worship at the altar of the Goddess of the Wilderness and seek to re-learn to dance to the rythym of Her sweet song. We have nothing to talk about with the Forest Service.

As I look back over the fifteen years of working with the Gila National Forest, of playing the game according to their rules, I realize my capitulation from a Wilderness Vision. As much as any other individual, I drew the boundaries of the present Gila Wilderness. Now it is time to do what is right.

The Gila Wilderness was the first Wilderness Area protected anywhere in the world. At the urging of Aldo Leopold, the Forest Service administratively set it aside in 1924 as a one million acre reserve safe from roads and timber cutting. In less than eight years, however, they punched a road through its heart, severing the Black Range on the east from the rest of the area. This road — the North Star Road — is yet today a thin ribbon of gravel, sometimes washed out, that divides the two wildest areas in New Mexico from each other. As the poptops open or the wine is uncorked whenever New Mexico conservationists meet, someone will murmur dreamily, "Wouldn't it be nice to close the North Star Road?"

It would, indeed.

In that light, allow me to offer a vision for the Gila National Forest; a reasonable, economically-sensible alternative which will restore what Aldo Leopold, fresh out of the Yale School of Forestry, found in the Gila when he stepped off the train in 1909 to go to work for the Forest Service.

1. First and foremost, the North Star Road should be closed and the Gila and Aldo Leopold Wilderness Areas combined into one unified Wilderness of 1,300,000 acres. Other minor dirt and gravel roads around the periphery should also be closed and the two small mud reservoirs of Snow Lake and Wall Lake removed. The twenty-mile long paved road into the Gila Cliff Dwellings National Monument and the developments at the Cliff Dwellings and Gila Hot Springs should be phased out over the next ten years.

2. Twelve other roadless area complexes, totalling one million acres, should be protected as Wilderness Areas also (see map). Dirt roads should be closed, timber sales rehabilitated, and other developments removed to establish the following areas:

*A. Sawyers Peak 90,000 acres
*B. Meadow Creek 40,000
*C. Gila Middle Box 72,000
*D. Hells Hole 30,000
*E. Blue Range/San Francisco River 165,000
*F. Mogollon Mountains 150,000
*G. Tularosa Mountains 275,000
*H. Frisco Box 40,000
*I. Wahoo Peak 60,000
*J. Escondido Mountain 55,000
*K. Funny Rocks 20,000
*L. Fox Mountain 15,000

The Hells Hole and Blue Range/San Francisco River areas include additional land in Arizona. Acreages given are for the New Mexico portions only.

3. There should be no new road construction on the Forest, .roads in the proposed Wilderness Areas should be closed and reclaimed, and all vehicles should be restricted to designated constructed roads.

4. No old growth or previously unlogged forest should be cut. There should be no deficit timber sales.

5. The grizzly and wolf should be reintroduced into the Gila Wilderness and possibly into the other large roadless areas on the Forest. The river otter should be reintroduced in the Gila and San Francisco Rivers, and studies should be made for possible reintroduction of jaguar, ocelot and jaguarundi. Bighorn sheep and pronghorn populations should be expanded.

6. Livestock grazing should be phased out on the entire Gila National Forest during the next decade.

7. The entire Gila National Forest should be withdrawn from appropriation under the Mining Laws and Mineral Leasing Laws.

8. All trapping and any form of predator control should be prohibited on the Forest.

9. There should be no use of herbicides, pesticides, fungicides, or other poisons on the Forest.

10. Management concentration for the Gila National Forest should be on reforestation, rehabilitation of overgrazed areas, repair of damaged watersheds, erosion control, closure of roads, protection and restoration of natural wildlife habitat, and other healing activities, using native species only.

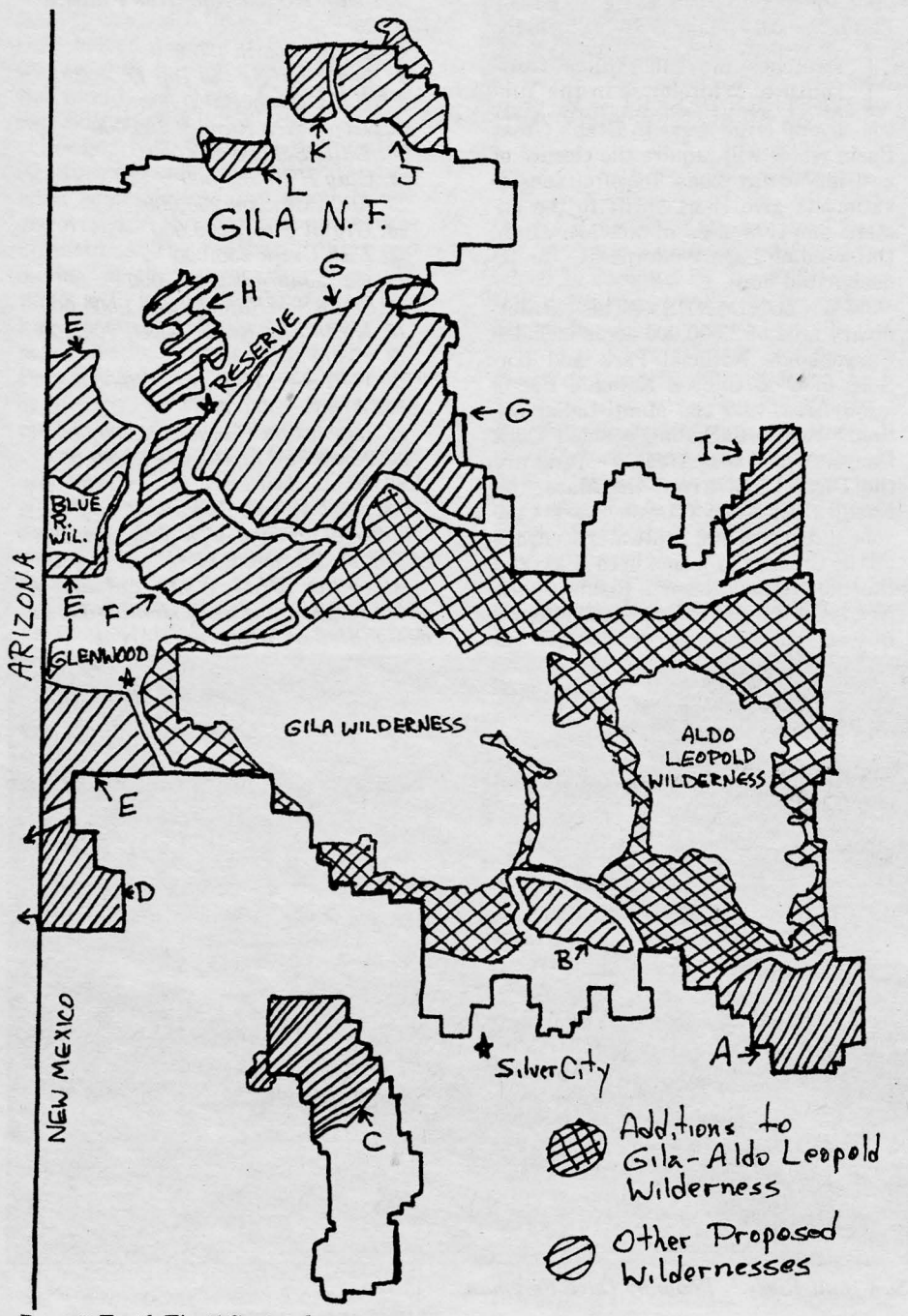
11. The Forest Service should work to return the entire area to a natural fire regime.

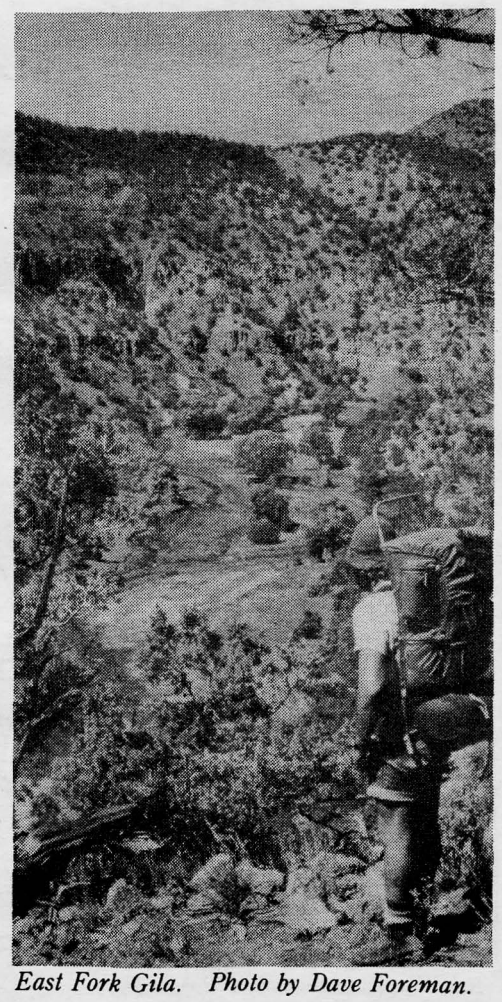
The Gila — America's first Wilderness — deserves better than we have given it. It has the greatest potential of any montane area in the lower 48 states outside of the Northern Rockies to be restored to a full, dynamic, diverse, healthy wilderness condition. The only thing lacking to achieve this noble goal is the vision, will, and commitment of conservationists. You can supply that.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

1. Write the Forest Supervisor, Gila National Forest, 2610 N. Silver Street, Silver City, NM 88061 in support of the Earth First! alternative for the Gila National Forest.

2. Contact Earth First!, POB 5871, Tucson, AZ 85703 if you would like to work on fine-tuning the Earth First! Gila proposal, and to begin to promote it.





East Fork Gila. Photo by Dave Foreman.

STIKINE RIVER THREATENED

By Rabinowitz

By 1986, large-scale logging operations and an open-pit coal mine may tarnish each end of British Columbia's largest wilderness watercourse, the Stikine River. Recently B.C. government ministries began to review a five volume proposal by Gulf Canada to develop an anthracite coal mine near the Stikine's source and apparently within the "Spatsizi plateau natural area of Canadian significance" — a potential National Park. Meanwhile, true to Forest "Service" tradition, the B.C. forests ministry has been working on a "local resource use plan" that would allow large-scale logging in the lower Stikine, upriver of the lands protected by Alaska's Stikine-LaConte Wilderness Area. This logging could begin next spring, and work on the mine is slated for late next year.

Small-scale logging for Spruce and Cottonwood taken in booms downriver to Wrangell, Alaska, has been occuring on the lower Stikine for the past two winters and will probably continue this winter. A ministry engineer is now studying the impact of log boom movements on the Stikine as a consulting firm produces a plan to (as usual) "minimize the visual impact" of logging. The consultants are also supposed to consider the river's recreational values and the impact of logging on fishing. The studies will be combined by October and released for public input. According to Glenn Bohn, *Vancouver Sun* reporter, the head of the Cassiar forest district, Ian Bowie, hopes that the plan will lead to the granting of licenses and increased logging by next spring.

Proponents of the coal mine on the upper Stikine have estimated that the mine would create 500 jobs directly and 500 indirectly, and would involve the extraction of 1.5 million tons of coal a year for the next 20 years. A Gulf Canada spokesperson said that a sample of 20,000 tons has already been mined from the Klappan area at the edge of the Stikine watershed.

Unfortunately, the bureaucratic designation of "natural area of Canadian significance" presents no legal barriers to resource extraction. The B.C. province has juridiction over these lands and resources, so the federal government would have to obtain B.C. approval to enact a Federal-provincial agreement before giving the area National Park status. However, there has been no request from the B.C. government for this to happen.

The Spatsizi Plateau area encompasses 10,000 square kilometers surrounding Spatsizi Provincial Park. It is one of the 48 unique natural regions identified by the federal government in Canada. According to a Parks Canada document, "each of these natural regions should be represented in the system of national parks." The Spatsizi Plateau area lies within "Natural Region 7," which stretches from the Alaska/Yukon border almost to Prince George. There are currently no National Parks in Natural Region 7.

Recently conservation groups whose common goal is the protection of the Stikine watershed met together for the first time. the participating groups included the Association of United Tahltans, a tribal association of the people native to the Area; Friends of the Stikine, based in northern B.C.; the Yukon Conservation Society; and the Southeast Alaska Conservation Council (SEACC). Together they called for a moratorium on "commercial logging on the lower river, hydro-electric development, large-scale mining, flooding reserves, access roads (and) further alienation of agricultural and residential lands." They also called for all land use proposals within the Stikine watershed to be subject to the settlement of the Tahltan land claim. About 1,500 Tahltans live in the area and their claim takes in about 100,000 square kilometers from the Yukon to a point north of Stewart. The groups want the Stikine River corridor to be granted park status to maximize protection of its wild state, noting that under present policy, federal provisions recognize the need to settle aboriginal land claims and to include native people in park management. They ask allowance to be made for the continuation of all traditional Tahltan activities, and that a National Park Reserve be created to include the unique plateau and headwaters of the Spatsizi, Klappan, Nass and Skeena Rivers, with resource development within this area to be prohibited pending the settlement of local tribal land claims.

Once again, governmental bodies are allowing profit-seeking corporations to invade and destroy the natural, irreplaceable heritage of the people they are supposed to represent, disregarding the fact that it is not even their land to dispose of, but belongs to the native inhabitants. There is something drastically wrong when it is the dollar sign that continually steers a society's system, rather than the people affected in the long-term and the needs of the eco-system upon which all are dependent for their survival.

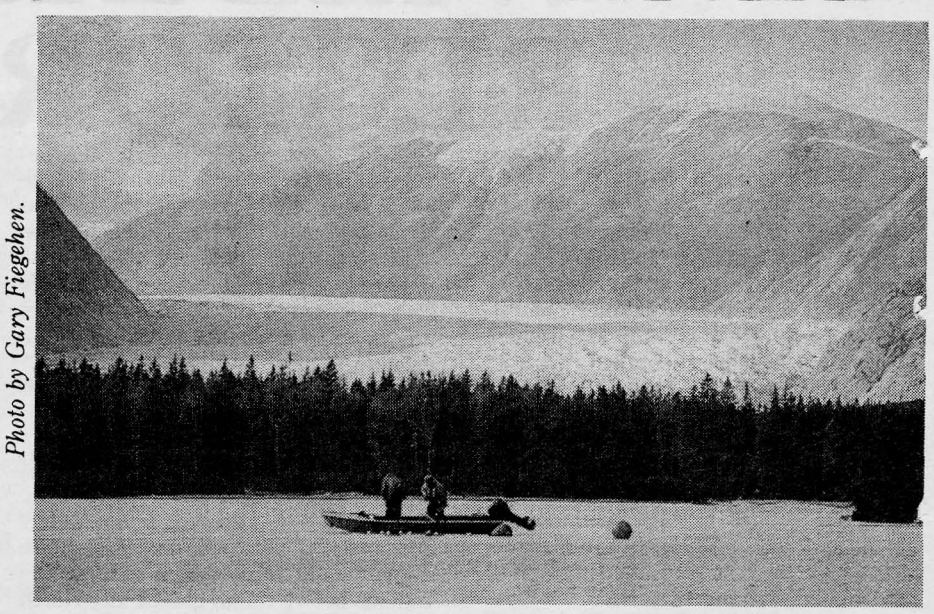


Photo by Gary Fiegehen.

Tahltan fishermen on lower Stikine. Postcard from Friends of Stikine.

EF! PROPOSES 20 MILLION ACRE INTERNATIONAL PRESERVE

Earth First!ers in Juneau, Alaska, have drawn up a proposal for one of the largest Wilderness Areas in North America — the Stikine/Cassiar/Atlin International Wilderness Preserve (see map). The proposed Wilderness stretches over 400 miles from just south of Whitehorse in the Yukon to Misty Fjords National Monument in extreme southern Southeast Alaska. The Stikine/Cassiar/Atlin International Wilderness Preserve includes coastal rainforest; tidewater and alpine glaciers; interior forests of pine, spruce, birch and aspen; critical habitat for deer, grizzlies, brown bear, moose, caribou, bald eages, and five species of salmon; the spectacular Grand Canyon of the Stikine; the Ice Mountain glaciated volcanic field; sagebrush; and some of the most spectacular high mountain scenery in the world. Wilderness travel is by horseback, kayak, river boat, float or ski plane, and on foot. There are no roads. Included are parts of the Tongass National Forest in Alaska, and large tracts of land under the jurisdiction of various British Columbia agencies. In time, this area will be well known as one of the continent's most spectacular and undisturbed large wildernesses.

For more information on threats to the Stikine, contact the following groups:

Friends of the Stikine
4609 West 10th Avenue
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Southeast Alaska Conservation Council
Box 1692
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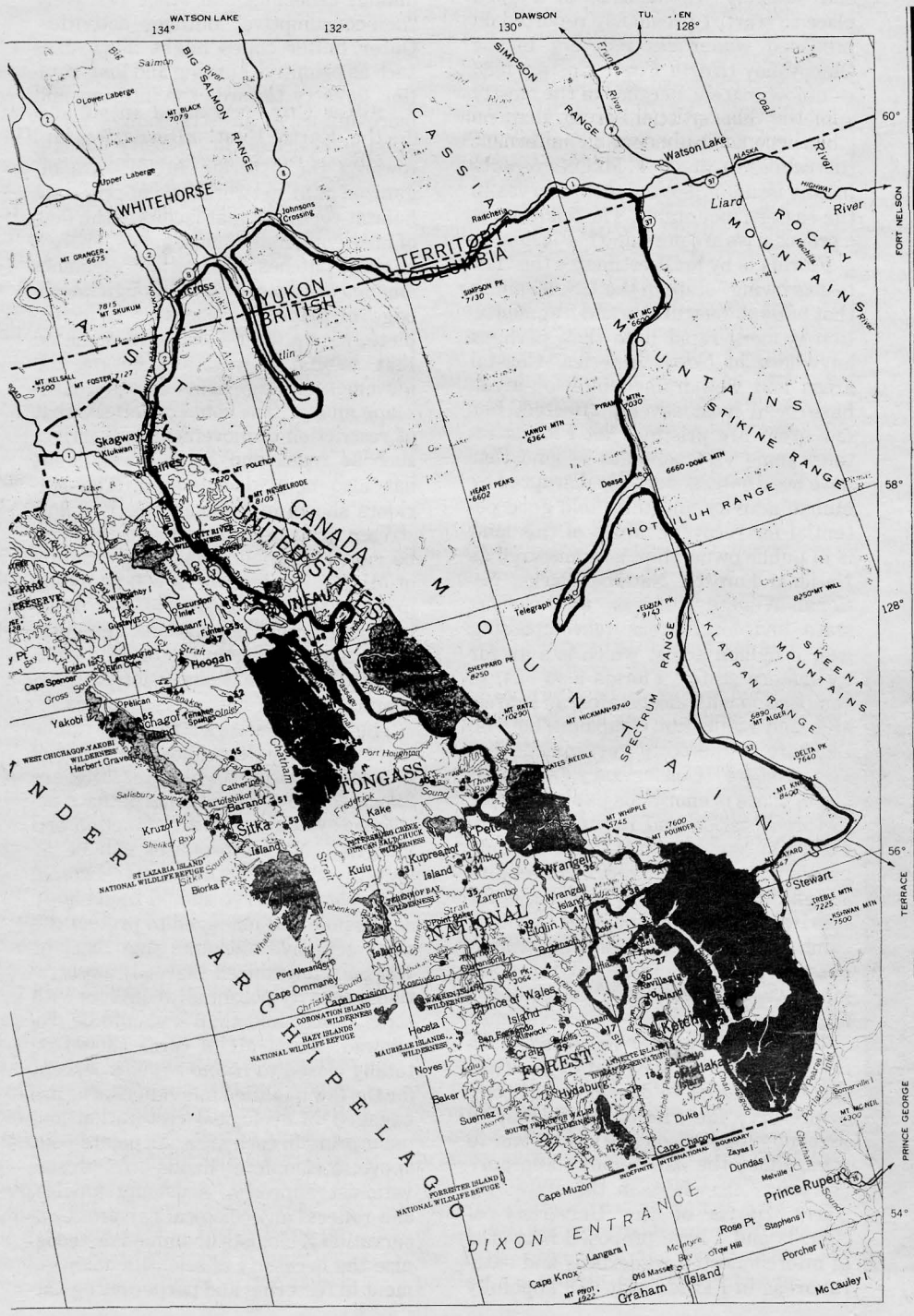


Earth First! Stikine-Atlin-Cassiar International Wilderness Preserve.

This bearwolf guards the grave of a Tahltan Indian on the Stikine River — the entire Stikine basin needs more wilderness spirit guardians as well.

WILDERNESS RECOVE
RESTORATION: AN EX

By Reed F. Noss

Recovery implies a healing process. Exclude man, let nature be, and everything will return to naturalness and purity. If it were only so simple! Unfortunately, ecologically degraded areas seldom will heal on their own, in the sense of returning to pre-disturbance or presettlement condition. Soils may have washed away, water has often been diverted or polluted, acid rain may be falling, large carnivores and other sensitive species have usually been eliminated, and recolonization sources may be at a great distance across an inhospitable, human-dominated terrain.

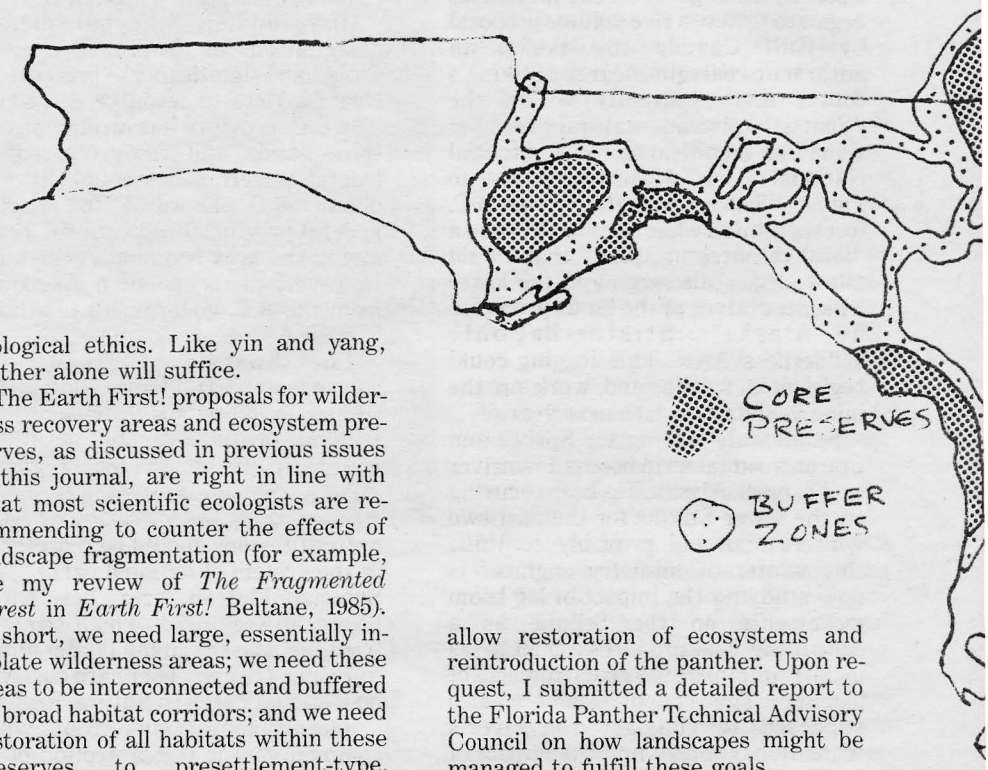
Even the act of excluding harmful human activities from a natural area is a form of active land management. Eliminating all possible traces of human influence requires even more management. Letting things be is unfortunately not a viable management option in a world overrun by *Homo sapiens*. Active habitat restoration efforts; removal of roads, structures, and other intrusions; reestablishment of original drainage patterns; reintroduction of large predators and other missing ecosystem components; and guarding against human trespass, poaching and overuse are necessary steps in a true wilderness recovery program. This is the irony of our age: "hands-on" management is needed to restore "hands-off" wilderness character.

Restoration implies different things to different people, depending perhaps on how much of an ecological purist you are. To some, turning a strip mine into a cattle pasture is restoration enough. Unfortunately, this is the fate of much "reclaimed" land that was formerly strip-mined; restoration of a pre-mining natural community is rarely a goal in these federally-funded programs. In other cases, naturalists believe that planting a patch of prairie with a nice mix of native grasses and forbs is a crowning achievement of conservation. Prairie "restoration," usually on the scale of a few acres, is a popular pastime in the Midwest, even in areas where no prairie existed originally. While I will not deny the esthetic value of these "islands of life" in a corn-soybean and shopping center landscape, this is not sufficient restoration for me. I believe that ecological restoration and wilderness recovery should be closely related concepts, close together on a spectrum of conservation effort. Ecological restoration should, whenever possible, recreate the presettlement-type structure, function, and integrity of ecosystems, while allowing for natural dynamism. *Structure* is the characteristic species composition, diversity, and relative abundance patterns, encompassing complete food webs and the physical environment that existed on the site and across the landscape. *Function* is the suite of ecological and evolutionary processes associated with that structure — in short, the natural flow and cycling of things, and the events that punctuate that flow. *Integrity* is an emergent, somewhat intangible quality that arises from natural structure and function, and implies naturalness and beauty. What must be restored or re-created then are *whole* ecosystems, not pieces of ecosystems. The heart of a whole ecosystem is wilderness.

Restoring ecosystems and re-creating wilderness are not easy tasks in human-dominated landscapes. The main problem with these landscapes, which increasingly overwhelm the earth, is that they are *fragmented*. They are pieces, not wholes. As white settlers (and to a certain extent, the Indians before them) moved into North America, they removed native vegetation, replaced it with crops, or simply cleared and burned to improve travel, visibility for hunting, or to reduce pestiferous insect populations. Trails and then roads were built, criss-crossing the wilderness and ultimately taming the land. All regions became more accessible, and the animals easier to hunt and destroy. Large carnivores and omnivores were persecuted with particular ruthlessness, and their rapid demise effectively removed the top of the food pyramid. This disruption of the food web, combined with a colossal invasion of opportunistic plant and animal weeds, significantly altered the native ecosystems of North America. The land became tame, weedy, humanized. Remnant natural areas are now scattered, disturbed and incomplete. In all but the very largest wilderness areas, natural ecosystem structure, function, and integrity have been lost, replaced by systems that are depauperate, homogenous, and unstable.

Traditional, anthropocentric conservation efforts do not adequately address these far-reaching consequences of landscape fragmentation. They view remnant natural areas as "living museums," and evaluate wilderness in terms of "visitor days." Fragmentation is not recognized as a problem because evaluations are site-specific and blind to the processes that operate at large spatial and temporal scales. Parks and preserves are seen as show pieces and recreation areas, not as ecosystems or sacred groves. Both the rational and the intuitive understanding of nature are precluded by a management regime that focuses only on short-term benefits to humans.

We can do better. Not with a myopic conception of "let it be" preservation — few wildernesses on earth are large and pristine enough for that — but instead with an ecocentric and scientifically cognizant program of ecological restoration. Science and gut-level ethics need not clash, but can work together towards the re-creation of whole ecosystems and wilderness. We know intuitively, as followers of deep ecology, what is right. We are beginning to know rationally, as scientific ecologists, how to restore what is right. A holistic approach to preservation requires an intermingling of ecological science and ecological ethics. Like yin and yang, neither alone will suffice.



The Earth First! proposals for wilderness recovery areas and ecosystem preserves, as discussed in previous issues of this journal, are right in line with what most scientific ecologists are recommending to counter the effects of landscape fragmentation (for example, see my review of *The Fragmented Forest* in *Earth First!* Beltane, 1985). In short, we need large, essentially inviolate wilderness areas; we need these areas to be interconnected and buffered by broad habitat corridors; and we need restoration of all habitats within these preserves to presettlement-type, dynamic ecosystems. We must demand nothing less than an interconnected network of restored wilderness in all areas of the earth where wilderness has been lost. This re-creation of the primitive and wild is, in the grand scheme of things, just as important as preserving the last vestiges of original wilderness.

As human populations and technological growth continues, ecological restoration and wilderness recovery will be needed in an increasing number of landscapes across the globe. Concomitant with slowing and eventually reversing the cancerous growth of humanity, we must begin restoration efforts in earnest. Eastern North America, where ecosystems have been both well-studied and severely fragmented, is a good place to start. I previously reported on proposed wilderness recovery in the Ohio Valley (*Earth First!* Eostar, 1983 — unfortunately, because of the mostly spineless conservationists in that region, little has been done to implement this proposal), and R.F. Mueller reports in this issue on ecological preserves in the eastern mountains. The following is a proposal we are pursuing in Florida.

Florida is by most estimates the "fastest-growing" state in the US, meaning that habitat destruction and fragmentation is more rapid here than perhaps anywhere in North America. Coastal areas and well-drained interior areas have been most severly affected, but few areas are pristine. Yet Florida retains some vast acreages of land that have been only moderately disrupted by human activity and thus hold good potential for recovery. Much of this land is in public ownership, administered as National Forests, National Parks, National Wildlife Refuges, and various state and local areas (encompassing over 5 million acres, which is a lot for an eastern state). Florida also has, in comparison with most states, an aggressive land acquisition campaign, both on the part of the state government and The Nature Conservancy. Furthermore, there is enormous public support for preservation and reintroduction of Florida's "state animal," the Florida panther, which just happens to require a significant acreage of wilderness for survival. The Florida panther, a potent symbol of Florida's vanishing wilderness, is an appropriate rallying point for a visonary conservation strategy that seeks to restore whole ecosystems.

The Florida Panther Technical Advisory Council was appointed by the Governor of Florida to develop a strategy to preserve the Florida panther in its present range in south Florida, and to reintroduce the panther into appropriate areas elsewhere in the state. Dr. Larry Harris of the Univeristy of Florida and I have proposed networks of interconnected wilderness and natural areas in Florida that will hopefully allow restoration of ecosystems and reintroduction of the panther. Upon request, I submitted a detailed report to the Florida Panther Technical Advisory Council on how landscapes might be managed to fulfill these goals.

The accompanying map shows a system of "MUM Networks" that we have proposed for Florida. A MUM is a "multiple-use module," an extension of the biosphere reserve concept to multiple levels of biological hierarchy (e.g., from a local population to a macro-ecosystem) and to any conceivable landscape. Each MUM consists of an inviolable core preserve that is managed as wilderness and surrounded by a gradation of buffer zones. Buffer zones permit a spectrum of human activities that are consistent with preservation of the wilderness core, and protect the core from the more intensive land-use of surrounding, humanized land. Inner buffer zones might permit activities such as hiking, canoeing, and other relatively "non-consumptive" outdoor activities. Outer buffer zones might allow uses such as primitive hunting and long-rotation forestry towards the interior, and more intensive forestry, range, recreation and perhaps low-density housing towards the exterior. MUM's are organized into networks by appropriate habitat corridors that facilitate the flow of nutrients, individuals, genes, energy, habitat patches, and other elements among core preserves. Although knowledge of dispersal processes is incomplete, recent studies have documented that habitat corridors facilitate the movement of organisms across a landscape mosaic. The converse effect, that of restriction of movement by barriers such as roads and agricultural fields, has also been documented. The corridors shown in the map mostly follow stream drainage systems and thus can be called riparian strips. Organization of MUM's into networks will hopefully prevent the deleterious effects of inbreeding within populations, minimize extinctions, and help restore the shifting disturbance and succession patterns characteristic of natural landscapes.

The MUM Network strategy is fundamentally dependent upon a system of inviolable core preserves, areas that are managed to restore and perpetuate native ecosystem structure, function and integrity. No compromises can be allowed in the protection of MUM cores! Each core preserve should be as large as possible and managed to protect the most sensitive elements that exist or will be reintroduced there. If a recreational activity potentially conflicts with strict protection, then it should be disallowed. Many MUM cores should be totally closed to *Homo sapiens*, except for the few qualified individuals who are engaged in ecological restoration and monitoring in each area. As pointed out above, a complete "hands-off," preservationist approach is usually unwise, and reflects an ecological naivete. Conservation ecologists unanimously recognize the necessity of scientific management in restoring and perpetuating nat-

St. Mary's River MUM corridor. Photo by Reed Moss.

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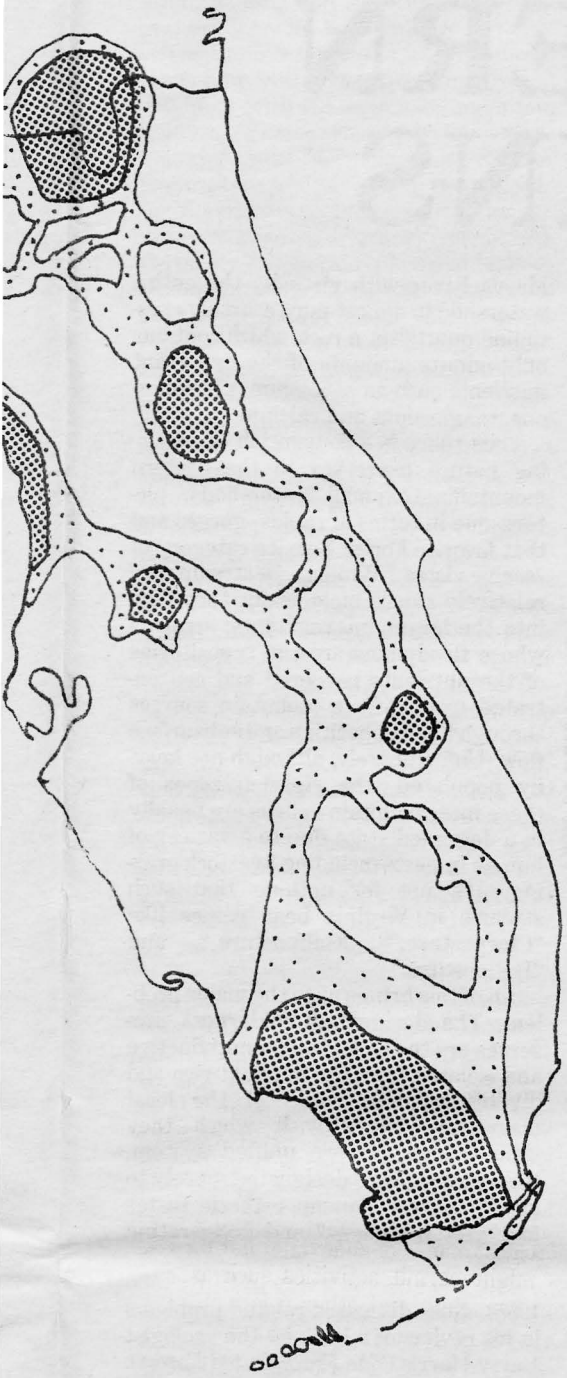
XAMPLE FOR FLORIDA



ural areas. Active habitat restoration should apply the best state-of-the-art management techniques to mimic the natural environmental regime, keeping human intervention down to the minimum necessary to restore natural conditions. The smaller the area, the more management and vigilant protection are needed. Few wilderness areas remaining on earth are large enough to contain natural disturbance, hydrological, and biogeochemical regimes within their boundaries, and recolonization sources for lost species might be far away. Thus, ironically, some human intervention is necessary to maintain most core preserves in a "natural" state.

Existing public lands must usually form the core preserves of a MUM Network. The largest core preserves portrayed in the map are under federal ownership and include the Apalachicola, Osceola, and Ocala National Forests in north Florida, the Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge in south Georgia and north Florida, and the Big Cypress National Preserve and Everglades National Park in south Florida. Several other National Wildlife Refuges, and state-owned parks, preserves, and water management areas are also proposed as core preseves. Some smaller core preserves are not shown on the map at this scale. Proposed buffer zones and connecting corridors include public lands, but also much private land. Not all in the latter category need be acquired by government agencies, however. Rather, conservation easements and management agreements with landowners should generally provide sufficient protection to outer buffer zones.

Because relatively little land need be acquired to complete the Florida MUM Network, lack of funds is not expected to be a major problem. Instead, the impediment to rapid progress at this time is resistance on the part of the public agencies that manage the land proposed as core preserves. Although the plan has been actively endorsed by two governor-appointed councils (the Florida Panther Technical Advisory Council and the Nongame Wildlife Advisory Council), and by staff (but not administrators) of the Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission and the Florida Department of Natural Resources, relatively little of the land in question is under their jurisdiction. Instead the majority is federal land. It should be no surpirse to readers of this journal that most of the resistance to ecological restoration in Florida comes from the US Forest Service.

The 1985 proposed Land and Resource Management Plan for the National Forests in Florida, with accompanying DEIS, is a total disaster for Florida ecosystems. Timber production is blatantly assumed to be the primary function of National Forests, with other uses accomodated only when they do not interfere with production. None of the nine alternatives discussed in the DEIS guarantees preservation or restoration of native ecosystems at any meaningful scale, and the preferred alternative would hasten the conversion of National Forests into high-density tree farms. I reviewed the plan as Conservation Chairperson for the Florida Native Plant Society, and the comments I submitted represented an Earth First! perspective. This perspective, where restoration and perpetuation of native ecosystems in the National Forests is given the highest priority, was strongly evident in comments submitted to the Forest Service by many other Florida biologists and conservationists. Yet the Forest Service is unlikely to listen to reasonable arguments that disaccord with their warped conception of multiple use. It is now necessary for everyone who cares about the real Florida to apply a full spectrum of tactics, legal and illegal, to assure that the Freddies maintain these immensely valuable lands in a condition where they can function as core preserves in the Florida MUM Network. Florida has more than enough tree farms on private industry land, and these tree farms can actually perform a useful function as outer buffer zones for MUM preserves. The National Forests, on the other hand, are virtually the only lands in north Florida where large-scale ecosystem restoration is possible.

One hope we have of changing the management regime of the Florida National Forests lies in the Florida panther reintroduction plan. The first phases of this plan are already in operation. A public opinion survey has been completed, which shows enthusiastic support for panther reintroduction throughout the state. Captive propagation of panthers, necessary to supply animals for release to the wild, has recently been approved by the Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission. Panthers used in the breeding program will include existing captives and road-injured individuals too crippled to be released themselves. We are hoping that additional animals will come from closely related, non-endangered subspecies of cougars in the west (e.g., Texas), rather than from the critically endangered wild Florida population, which now numbers only 20 or 30 individuals. Another possibility is to use females from related subspecies as surrogate mothers, with eggs and sperm taken from Florida panthers in the wild.

The reintroduction of panthers into the National Forests of north Florida, and the Okefenokee Swamp of south Georgia/north Florida, has long been an explicit goal of the Florida panther recovery program. But when I asked Assistant Forest Supervisor Ray Mason, primary author of the Forest Plan, why panthers were not considered in the Plan, he claimed that all he has heard of the panther reintroduction program has been rumors in the press. This points to a serious deficiency in communication among agencies. Apparently the Forest Service, the Fish & Wildlife Service, and the Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission do not talk much to one another. We insist that the proposed Forest Plan cannot be considered adequate until the panther reintroduction plan is fully considered. We hope that established conservation groups such as the National Wildlife Federation, the Sierra Club, and the Florida Audubon Society will file a lawsuit over this discrepancy.

Reintroduction of panthers into the National Forests of Florida would be disastrous until drastic changes in the management of these areas occur. Numerous roads need to be closed and removed, logging must be curtailed in large core areas of each Forest, natural communities must be restored, and many recreational activities must cease. The best way to accomplish most of the necessary changes would be to designate most of each Forest as Wilderness. Furthermore, the Forests must be interconnected with each other and with other core preserves, and buffered from developed land, so that panthers can follow their normal instincts to wander without coming into frequent contact with humans. This is the expressed goal of the MUM Network as portrayed in the map. None of the terrestrial ecosystems of Florida can be considered complete until they regain healthy populations of their top predator, the panther (reintroduction of red wolves, another top predator now totally in captivity, is still a remote possibility).

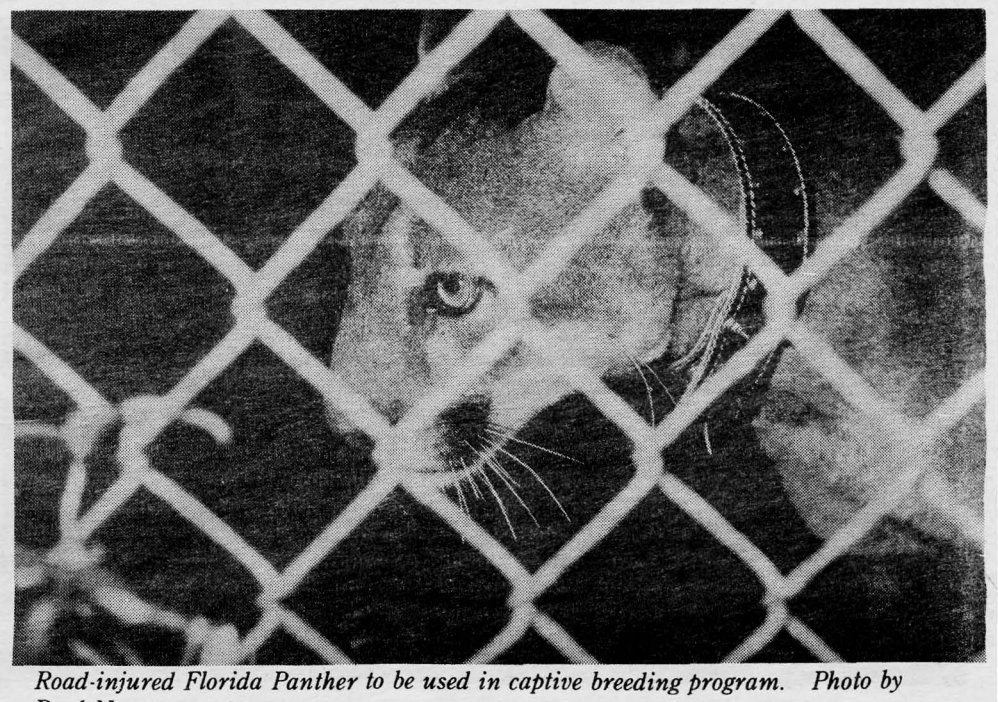
Of course, core areas other than National Forests are also in need of better management if the MUM Network is to function successfully. The Big Cypress National Preserve in south Florida, where a significant portion of the existing panther population survives, has been severely damaged by water mismanagement, overhunting, ORV's, and other abuses. The deer population has been seriously reduced, and panthers in the area are under-nourished. The Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission, which administers hunting regulations for the area, has recently limited hunting with dogs and from ORV's. But this is not enough. A total ban on hunting in the Preserve is needed, along with a closure of all roads through the area. The upgrading of Alligator Alley (State Route 84) to Interstate 75 can help the panther only if it is elevated for its entire length through panther-occupied habitat, not just at the most high-frequency panther crossings, and if all access roads are prohibited. New developments in the area should be outlawed (see *Earth First!*, Bridgid, 1985).

The MUM Network strategy for Florida, with the Florida panther as its most potent symbol, is based on the premise that degraded ecosystems can be restored and wilderness can be recreated. This premise can be proven correct only if we insist on an idealistic and ambitious basis for conservation and avoid compromises along the way. The National Forests and other public lands in Florida must undergo a radical change in management, with restoration and perpetuation of ecosystems given the highest priority. Individual Wilderness Areas and preserves must be seen not as isolated entities, but as interacting parts of a much larger system. They must furthermore be physically integrated into the larger system by a network of habitat corridors that permit dispersal and flow of biotic and abiotic elements, including the Florida panther. We are encouraged that some land-managing agencies in Florida are sympathetic to this strategy, and that most of the public seems to be behind it. We must now fight hard to see the strategy put into operation. Time is of the essence. Nothing short of an immense undertaking, beginning right now, can save the panther and the native ecosystems of Florida. We hope that conservationists in other bioregions across the globe will adopt similar strategies to interconnect, restore, and perpetuate native ecosystems to preserve indigenous diversity. Pieces of nature are not enough — we need the whole.

Reed Noss formerly worked as an ecologist for the Ohio Department of Natural Resources and the Florida Natural Areas Inventory. He is now pursuing a Ph.D. in wildlife ecology at the University of Florida.

EARTH FIRST!
No Compromise in the Defense of Mother Earth!

From its founding, Earth First! has insisted that preservation of remaining roadless and undeveloped areas was not enough, that active programs to restore wilderness and reintroduce extirpated species were needed. We are pleased to present several major proposals for such wilderness reclamation in this special section. Wilderness restoration plans for Florida, Virginia, Utah, and New Mexico are discussed in separate articles. We welcome additional articles discussing either the necessary techniques and art of wilderness re-creation and reintroduction of extirpated species, or specific proposals for such Wilderness Recovery Areas.



Road-injured Florida Panther to be used in captive breeding program. Photo by Reed Noss.

ECOLOGICAL PRESERVES FOR THE EASTERN MOUNTAINS

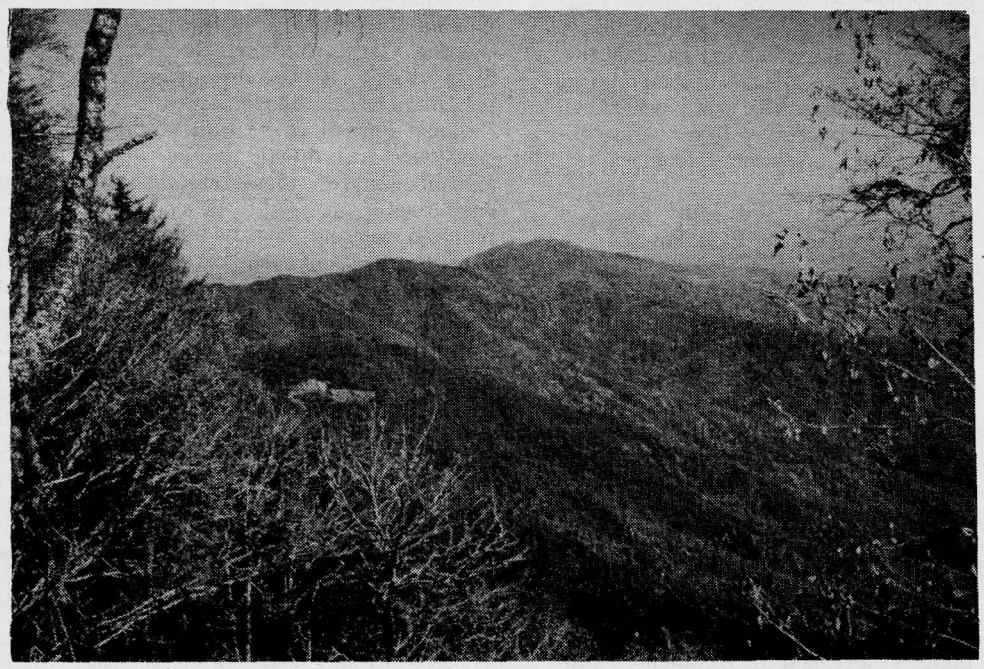
By R. F. Mueller

During the past decade many millions of acres of public lands have been set aside in the West, and particularly in Alaska, for the expressed purpose of preserving whole ecosystems — and even many of these large preserves are clearly insufficient. Yet in the eastern United States only small fragments have been designated. Why? Is it because the eastern ecosystems are less worthy of protection or is it because such protection is precluded by the large private land holdings? To the contrary, it's generally recognized that eastern deciduous forests, with their floodplains and prairie openings, are some of the most diverse temperate ecosystems anywhere, while the region contains 24 million acres of National Forest land alone. Despite this eligibility, the acreage devoted to ecosystem preservation is far less in the East than in the West even when the proportion of public lands in the two regions are compared. This state of affairs is brought to our attention most strongly in the recent designation of eastern Wilderness Areas, which average less than 10,000 acres as compared with some western Wildernesses in the range of a million contiguous acres. Clearly this two order of magnitude imbalance is justified neither by geography nor biology.

We do of course have numerous public "playgrounds" in the East, including several National Parks and Recreation Areas as well as state parks, wildlife management areas and other facilities. However, except for possibly the National Wildlife Refuges — which are largely confined to wetlands — these exist primarily to serve human needs, and in practice nature protection is only ancillary to them. As we shall see, even the designated Wilderness was planned largely to satisfy human esthetic values rather than nature's requirements. This absence of an ecological perspective and the Grand Vision in the East have resulted in sundered ecosystems and lack of watershed integrity. Now it's time for a new initiative to revise and upgrade nature protection in the region.

In a stimulating article (*EF!* Eostar, 1983), Reed Noss proposed the creation of a deciduous forest ecological preserve in the Ohio Valley. What could be more logical than to extend this idea to the eastern mountain forests given their already substantial tracts of National Forests? Also these forests have a certain geographic coherence and unity imposed by the NE-SW trending ranges and inter-mountain valley streams of a strong trellis drainage pattern, features which only lack the integration which could be gained by adequate preserve boundaries.

The US Forest Service's recently-proposed land and resource management plans for the region again remind us of the abuse and exploitation to which these lands have long been subject and which their planners wish to project in the future. As a consequence there has been an outcry from citizens, particularly in the mountain regions themselves. Under these plans our most precious mountain landscapes would be sliced into ever smaller fragments by roads and powerlines, and devastated by clearcuts and mines. Wildlife would be rigidly managed as an adjunct to logging and common species such as deer and turkey would be favored over the wilderness species bear, eastern cougar and the large raptors.



Great Smoky Mountains — largest mountain wilderness in East.

Photo by Dave Foreman

These Forest Service plans are totally without merit not only because of their blatant rapaciousness but also because they perpetuate and expand land use practices that continue to fragment what should be unified systems and because they subvert the most fundamental biologic and watershed imperatives. In this day of rapid advances in the earth sciences they fail even to acknowledge the importance of hydrologic and nutrient cycles or selectively fix on certain aspects of these cycles to promote their nefarious ends. For example, one stated justification for clearcutting is that it would increase the water yield (read run-off) for a watershed since getting rid of trees decreases evapotranspiration which feeds moisture into the air. Never mind that this would also increase the flashiness of streams, thereby intensifying drought, flooding and erosion, while the water-trapping and holding capacities of the landscape and the climate-moderating effects of evapotranspiration would be impaired. In a nutshell, the Forest Service would ignore all the criteria for poor watershed management most evident in the current rash of worldwide environmental catastrophes.

Closely related to these inept and deceptive water management policies is the disregard of forest nutrient demands by proposed expanded logging of marginal timber stands on steep terrain and dry, nutrient-poor soils, which, when bared by clearcutting, would rapidly lose their remaining nutrients through leaching and erosion. These points regarding nutrients have been made with particular force for the Jefferson and George Washington National Forests by Prof. Jesse Thompson of Roanoke College in his report to the Citizens Environmental Council of the Roanoke Valley. It should be obvious that detailed nutrient evaluation should precede *any* logging in these forests.

Although the land currently being logged in the eastern mountain forests is presumably the most accessible and productive in these forests, studies by Alaric Sample of The Wilderness Society (Issue Brief, July, 1984) have shown that the timber sale return on management and road building is frequently 10 cents or less per dollar invested. It's obvious then that future returns from more leached, eroded and nutrient-poor soils would be even less and that logging in these mountains would eventually be less like resource extraction and more like an armed conflict against nature.

To return these forests to a healthy, productive and ecologically harmonious state, we must first acknowledge that the land is worthy of protection for its own sake regardless of any short term benefits that might accrue to our species and that what is best for the forest is best for us in the long run. Pure wilderness ecosystems must be given priority over the human activities which now defile these mountains. Of course this rehabilitation of the eastern wilderness is justified all the more by the economic bankruptcy of these activities.

Although a variety of habitats are included within the eastern National Forest proclamation boundaries, most actual public land holdings are confined to the highlands, while the designated Wilderness Areas lie in the most rugged cores of the ranges. The streams which drain these Wilderness Areas and which nurture their wildlife are small secondary drainages to the larger local mainstems. In the slightly metamorphosed rocks of the sharply folded Appalachians, these secondary streams lead into mainstems which form broad valleys with rich flood plains between and parallel to the ranges, but in the more massive and highly metamorphosed rocks of the Blue Ridge and elsewhere, the drainage is more complex. As might be expected the small wilderness streams flow over the most resistant and nutrient-poor rocks. Fairly typical of the Virginia wilderness is the St. Marys River with virtually the entire watershed in almost pure coarsely crystalline quartzite, a rock which contains only minute amounts of the important nutrients such as potassium, phosphorous, magnesium and calcium.

Thus there is a convention of confining nature preserves in the eastern mountains to small watersheds, picturesque in terms of rapids, gorges and that favorite Forest Service category of "scenic vistas." While these streams are relatively sterile biologically, they flow into the larger intermountain streams whose floodplains are the repositories of the nutrients garnered and concentrated from diffuse mountain sources through flood deposition and subsurface flow. Unfortunately, although not heavily populated, the riparian zones of these intermountain valleys are usually in a degraded state due to a variety of human impacts including livestock grazing. It's not for nothing that such streams in Virginia bear names like "Cowpasture," "Calfpasture," and "Bullpasture."

All of this brings us to the major problem. The designated Wilderness preserves are too biologically unproductive and isolated from the nutrient-rich and diverse riparian zones of the local mainstem valleys with which they should form a more unified system. Rather they were designated merely to gratify narrow human esthetic tastes for "pretty scenery" and invigorating hiking.

In a more recent article (*EF!* Beltane 1985), Noss discusses related problems in his review of a book by the ecologist Larry Harris (*The Fragmented Forest*). Isolated and confined preserves don't really safeguard the species they contain in the absence of sufficient communication with like areas through travel corridors and without adequate buffer zones to separate them from surrounding areas of intensive development. The importance of riaprian strips in this scheme was also stressed by Harris.

In the eastern mountains the role of drainage networks is, if anything, even more critical than in some other areas, since there are fewer mineral nutrient sources in their rocks as compared with the geologically young volcanic deposits on which many western forests are developed.

The eastern mountain forests present an opportunity to create a system of ecological preserves that could embrace areas in the range of several hundreds of thousands of acres. These preserves could be created on the major ridges but could also include certain of the major intermountain valleys and mainstem streams of the trellis pattern, particularly the valleys in which some public land already occurs. The individual areas could be linked by communication corridors which should include riparian zones whenever possible. This system would of course require the acquisition of some private land, mostly within National Forest proclamation boundaries. However this land should be acquired with minimal impact over a considerable time period and avoid condemnation whenever possible. These preserves would also require the closing of some Forest Service roads and secondary routes. These closures could be mitigated in accomodating the private land phase-out by gradually limiting traffic to private inholder access.

The mountain wilderness cores with flanking and radiating riparian strips, and communication corridors could give way to a surrounding zone of greater access and more intensive human use.

Pure stream of the Appalachians. Photo by Dave Foreman.

Although this zone would be devoted largely to recreational activity (hunting, fishing, camping, etc.), it might also include some timber production based on rotation periods long enough to justify economically productive selective logging. A major function of this zone would be to act as a buffer between the Wilderness Preserve and an outer zone in which more intensive recreation, logging and traditional firewood gathering would be permitted.

The integration of the intermountain mainstem rivers and communication corridors with the expanded mountain wilderness cores would provide a more viable habitat for wilderness species and make availalbe to them the nourishing floodplains and diverse riparian environments of these larger streams. Wilderness designation of these valleys would bring about the reclamation of the presently degraded state of these riparian zones and provide new nutrient reservoirs which would result in wildlife proliferation not seen in years.

While the concept of ecological preserves for the eastern mountains hasn't yet been presented for public approval, there is much support for wilderness in the region and this support favors ecological aspects rather than recreational opportunities as was brought out in responses to Forest Service surveys (Draft EIS for Land and Resource Management Plan for the George Washington National Forest, 1985). The public also recognizes the relationship between forest degradation from road building, clearcutting with short rotation periods, deficit timber sales, and the unfair impact of these sales on competing private timber production. It is only a moderate step then from this recognition to an appreciation of a need for reclamation of the mountain wilderness on the scale envisioned here.

The eastern National Forests which are the best candidates for conversion to ecological preserves are the Jefferson and George Washington in Virginia. Although these forests show a range of local climatic conditions, they lie in a general trough of low rainfall relative to surrounding areas. In addition they also occupy a belt of shallow soils consisting largely of imperfectly weathered rock fragments (Agriculture Handbook No. 271, Forest Service, 1965). These are the soils developed on rocks such as the quartzite previously discussed. As a result, trees grow relatively slowly and while they form forests of picturesque beauty and good wildlife cover, timber quality is poor except in local coves and riparian zones which should never be logged anyway. Given these conditions and the impractical lust for timber production as evidenced by the short rotation periods employed by the Forest Service, the timber receipts to cost ratios (R/C) have been only 0.08 and 0.10 for the Jefferson and George Washington respectively. In the words of Prof. Thompson, ". . . The National Forests of Virginia could be in better hands." I believe these hands should be those of some agency other than the Forest Service which has done such a poor job of administering wilderness (*EF!* Yule, 1984).

Other likely candidates for conversion to ecological preserves are the following National Forests with their (R/C) numbers as given by The Wilderness Society: Daniel Boone of Kentucky (0.16), Cherokee of Tennessee (0.23), the Monogahela of West Virginia (0.30), and the North Carolina National Forests (0.31). Also the Jefferson-George Washington-Monogahela complex lies close to the major eastern population centers where water and air resources are under the greatest stress from a multitude of pollutants and where, consequently, the mitigating effects of significant wilderness are most urgently needed.

It was the eastern wilderness forests, spreading over plains, riverbanks and mountain heights that, above and beyond all the mercenary instincts of European society, first imbued the American soul with its special love of freedom and independence. That wilderness deserves to live again, and it can in a system of eastern ecological preserves.

R.F. Mueller, an Earth First! contact in Virginia, formerly did environmental research at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center.

UTAH (Cont)

The north end has five adjoining BLM units. Parunaweep Canyon (the East Fork of the Virgin River), with a spectacular narrows between Navajo Sandstone terrain, is as inseparable from Zion National Park as Zion Canyon itself, but is the site for a new dam proposal by the Washington County water conservation district. The BLM has already began the upgrading of a long-washed-out road inside the WSA in anticipation of the project and has declared the canyon as unsuitable for wilderness recreation because the narrows are "too dangerous."

Bryce Canyon National Park has a strip of National Forest and two BLM WSAs beneath its inspiring spires. Across a single dirt road to the southeast, the extensive Paria-Hackberry WSA is separated from the designated Paria Wilderness Area by only a paved ribbon (US 89 alt.) which stretches to Lee's Ferry on the tranquilized Colorado River downstream from Glen Canyon Dam.

Glen Canyon National Recreation Area (GCNRA) is the central circulatory system of the Colorado River drainage, but its inappropriate boundaries divide roadless areas, cut canyons in half, disregard ecosystems, ignore two adjoining National Parks, allow mineral and oil exploration inside pristine lands, and contains in its center the most extensive destruction of beauty in the history of the North American continent. Divided parcels that must be included in the GCNRA's wilderness are: Grand Gulch, Red House Cliffs, Wilson Mesa, Mancos Mesa, Dark and Gypsum Canyons, Canyonlands National Park, Fiddler Butte-North Wash, Trachyte Creek and Little Rockies, Escalante/Waterpocket Fold (lower. Capitol Reef National Park), 50-Mile Mountain (Kaiparowits), and various small pieces that surround the "Lake." Twentieth Century Man now floats the surface, ignorantly blind and unable to see what lies inside. The sharp, clean Glen Canyon Dam is *only* the knife of the surgeon who executed the hysterectomy.

The developments and threats to this wild region are too numerous to mention here. Fortunately, because of the vastness of this land, they are still merely pockets of intrusions. If the agencies had undertaken a development study instead of a wilderness study, then the true scope of wilderness would have been revealed. The Wilderness of Southern Utah is intruded upon only by a few developed areas and minor roads that pass through like threads.

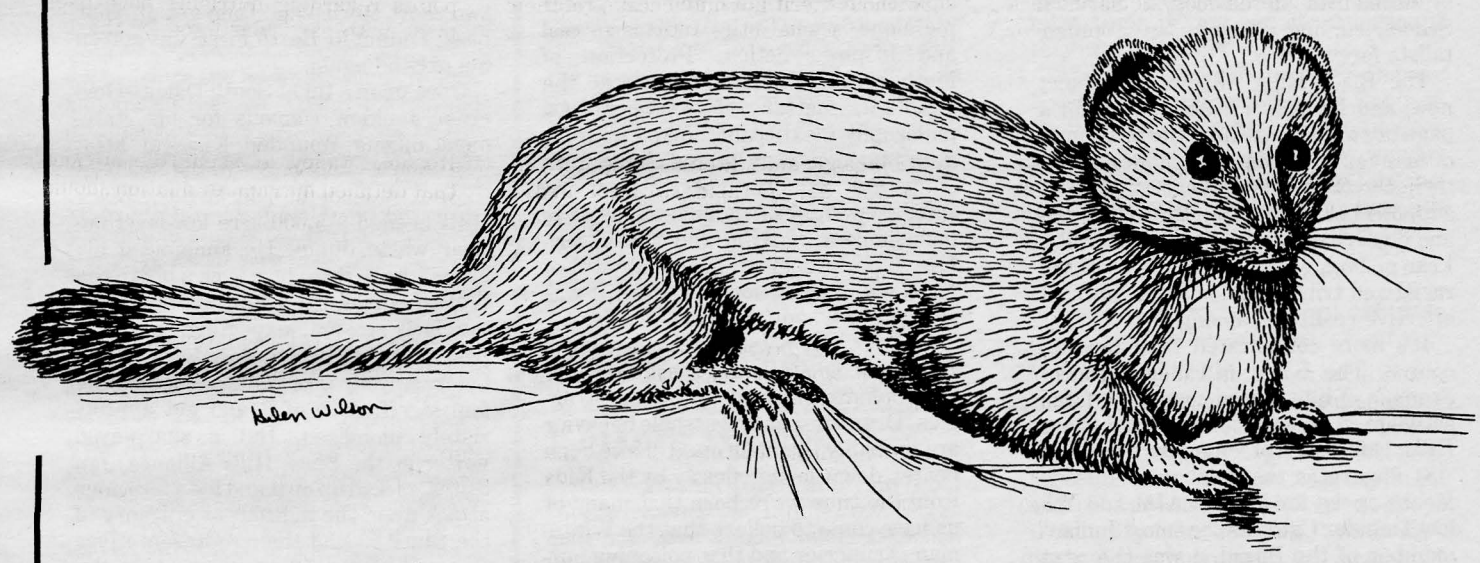
Utah Senator Jake Garn wants to trade the paving of the Burr Trail for an Escalante Wilderness Bill. The Escalante *is* wilderness and should not be trading stock. Conservationists should not condone developments in some wild areas for Wilderness bills. Let us stand behind the wilderness that remains. If we lose a battle: we lose. The fight will continue on another level.

We need to reexamine and interpret the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA). The entire process has thus far been used to discredit wilderness. (*Editor's note: This has occurred under both the Reagan and Carter Administrations. Cecil Andrus as Carter's Secretary of Interior allowed his protege Garry Wicks as Utah State BLM Director to totally corrupt the BLM wilderness process in Utah for political ends. See* ***Earth First!*** *Nov. 1, 1982.*) They have divided and are trying to conquer the wildlands of the Colorado Plateau. We can't go along with their falsified studies. So much has been lost since FLPMA was enacted in 1976 that we must fight for every roadless area left and see them as true roadless areas regardless of which branch of the federal government manages them. They are all public lands. Streams and drainages should be protected from beginning to end: from the forests of alpine lakes to the kidnapped waters between the toes of Navajo Mountain.

"The Head of the Earth" is what the Navajos call their sacred Mountain. From its summit, the distant horizon includes Brian Head above Cedar City to the west, the Book Cliffs to the north, Colorado's San Juan Mountains to the east, and the San Franicsco Peaks above Flagstaff to the south. Volumes could be written describing the land between, but the geological features that must be mentioned are the rays that converge upon the area of Navajo Mountain. Fifty-Mile Mountain (Straight Cliffs) runs in a tangent for at least that distance pointing to the area. Waterpocket Fold does so for one hundered miles. The Escalante River, between these two, runs into the area, as do the Colorado and San Juan Rivers. Red House Cliffs, between these two flows, runs a straight line to the area, as does the east side of Black Mesa on the Navajo Reservation. Fracture lines across Wilson Mesa run southwest and from Monument Valley they run west into the center where Rainbow Bridge resides, resting on the clay-seamed sandstone of the Kayenta Formation, crumbling now on the superimposed shoreline of the Colorado.

As we fight for the remaining wilderness, let us not forget the body of the Plateau from her fingers to her toes; from capillaries to her heart — where I pray for the release of the impounded waters. For the canyon lies like the womb itself laid open for us to encounter how life sprang from the union of stone and water impregnated by the Sun.

Grant Johnson lives in an overhang on Deer Creek, which flows into the Escalante. For the last 12 years he has lived in canyons, distant mining camps and remote ranches in southern Utah. These canyons are his total preoccupation.



LIVING FREE:
A Note on Industrial Totalitarianism

By Rick Davis

The other day I strayed into a typical Japanese shopping center, a big box with three floors and not a single window. Blaring bargain announcements ripped through the air as mad housewives shrieked over the piles of industrial age junk on sale. That was bad, but worse yet was the display employing plastic trees and a tape recording of a cicada singing. "So the bastards have finally expropriated Nature," I thought, "and converted it into plastic." In the middle of the asphalt and concrete jungle, *plastic* trees and *tape recorded* insects now constituted reality.

Life in industrial age society is like eating at the only restaurant in town. There's a menu — written by the proprietor — from which we choose something. We either eat one of his inventions or we go hungry. There are no special orders. In our society, the corporate executives are the proprietors: they make up the menu, and you choose from among the selections. If you don't like what they have to offer, you go without. In fact, the executives decide (or try to decide) everything about how you will live your life — what you'll eat, how you'll entertain yourself. Now of course they tell us that they perform market surveys to determine what we want, and that by this means they are *serving* the consumer, but let us not be deceived. They are merely stimulating our latent desires in order to make yet more money. If we are getting "service," then it is the same kind of "service" the cow gets from the bull.

The corporate executives are also into music, for they are, as it were, the conductors of the *Greed Concerto* and the *Symphony of Destruction*. With a flourish of the baton, a new worthless product is created and shoved down our throats: with a wave of the arm a new gash is dug deep into the suffering Earth.

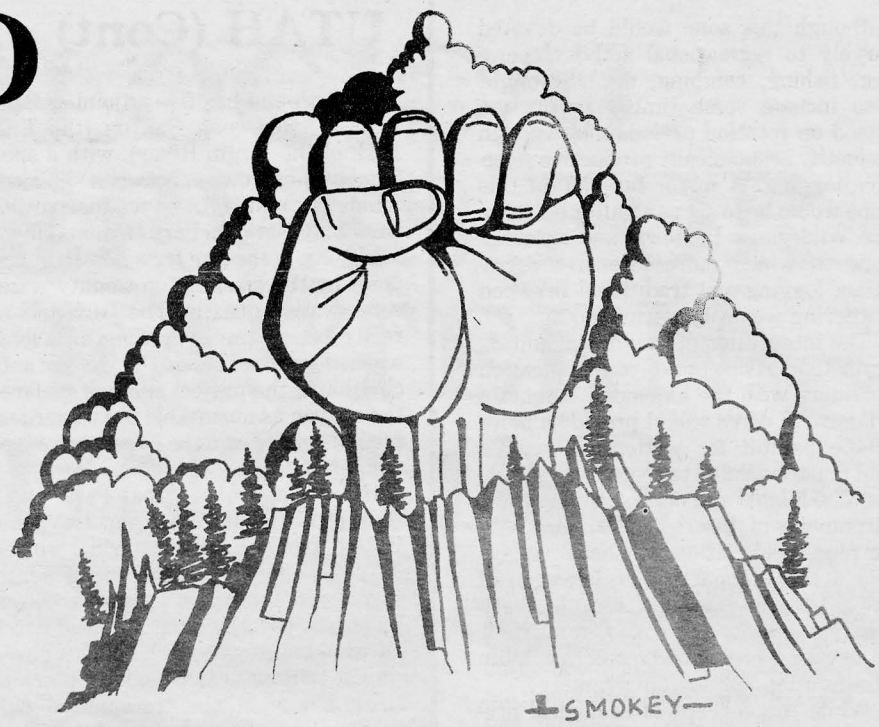
Let us decide for ourselves how we will live. Let us create a life of autonomy for ourselves. This is not easy, for the industrial state offers us something called "security," which takes the form of sinecures, free or low-cost medical care, insurance, Social Security, welfare, pensions, housing, and, yes, those convenient shopping malls. If you want a life of ease, then take it.

However, the industrial state exacts a terrible price for its "security." It takes from us our freedom, our autonomy. A goldfish in a bowl is fed everyday, it never has to worry about where its next meal is coming from. But who wants to live like that?

Amigos, there is not much time left, for the *Greed Concerto* has entered its final movement. I urge you to break the conductor's baton before it is too late!

Rick Davis is the Earth First! contact in Japan and a frequent contributor to this paper.

NATIVES AND NATURAL PEOPLES: LET'S WORK TOGETHER



They can cut off our fingers, one by one, but if we join together we will make a powerful fist . . .

— Sitting Bull

By David Seals

"Indians are too controversial," declared a senior Sierra Club official a few years ago. "We better not get too involved with you. We're working on so many sensitive issues that Treaty Rights and Native Sovereignty would upset some of our delicate coalitions, particularily with the League of Women Voters."

I kid you not, that's what he said. Ray Beaulieu stopped me from killing the guy right there. Ray was the Director of the Black Hills Alliance at the time and I was editor of our quarterly newspaper PAHA SAPA REPORT. We were desperately trying to get some more alliances going like those already being built through the BHA primarily between Indians and non-Indian ranchers in South Dakota. The 1980 Black Hills Survival Gathering was the BHA's crowning achievement, so of course the Feds moved in with everything they had to put an end to THAT crap. Ray burned out and went back to his Chippewa Rezz in Minnesota to develop a Survival School, cursing all white environmentalists forever.

The Black Hills Alliance is defunct now, and I'd like to examine that for a page or two. I don't share the bitterness of many of my Indian brothers and sisters towards woosy ecologists, partly I suppose because I'm a "Breed" myself and don't really belong in either society. I can go both ways and see the sensitive racial and tribal problems that prevent effective coalitions among us.

It's more complicated than race, of course. The BHA was a magnificent example of inter-racial cooperation and activism in defense of the sacred Black Hills. Our Board of Directors from 1982 - 84 illustrates the point well: Russell Means spoke for Dakota AIM and Yellow Thunder Camp as the "most Indian" member of the Board. I was the next "most Indian" member (and was usually trying to keep the peace). Then we had three non-Indians whom I still consider to be men of greatness — Bruce Ellison, the lawyer from back East who almost single-handedly defends Leonard Peltier, AIM, the Black Hills, the Northern Cheyenne, etc.; Nick Meinhardt, the Quaker who keeps an even keel and funds coming in from the church; and Marv Kammerer, the 3rd generation South Dakota rancher whose land borders Ellsworth Air Force Base ("PEACE IS OUR PROFESSION") and who hosted the Survival Gathering on his ranch. There we were, surrounded by more Minutemen and B-52s than any other area in the West, and we were screaming about Treaties.

Treaties. That's the key. The 1868 Fort Laramie Treaty is the one that Red Cloud signed with President US Grant, who was suing for peace. The Lakota and Tsistsitas Nations kicked the ass of Sherman's army and delivered America its first military defeat. (Vietnam was the next one.) This historical perspective is important because the Black Hills Alliance was founded on the principle of Treaty Rights, and that principle alone is what stirs Indians to real and inspired action. Protection of Mother Earth became for us at the BHA a matter of an historical philosophy inextricably linked with *Indian Management of the Land and Water and Sky.* The sheer ethical and spiritual weight of Indians taking over management of BLM and Forest Service land propelled everyone at the BHA with inspiration and drive. It was so *right.* We had *truth* on our side.

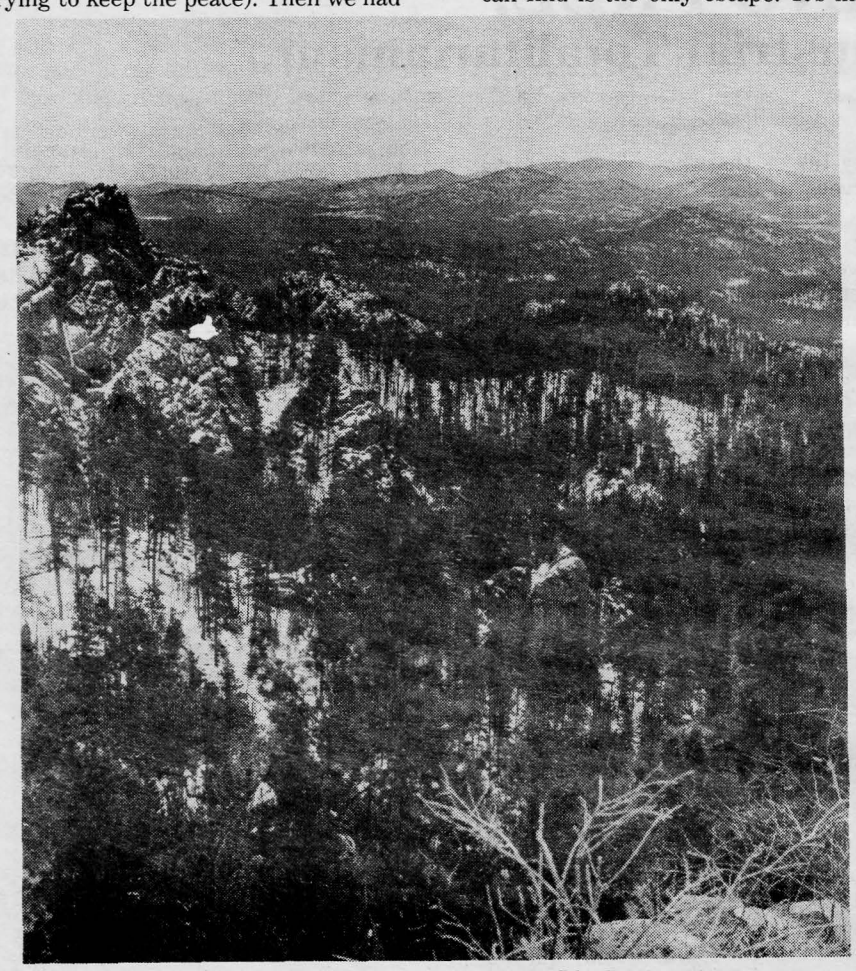
But . . . as I pointed out in my novel *The Powwow Highway,* there are a lot of problems inherent in Indian struggles. Drunkenness and asshole behavior are probably the main ones. We've been beaten down so mercilessly by the Feds from the time we're born that many of us have come to believe that the Whiteman *is* superior and that poisoning ourselves with booze or any other drug we can find is the only escape. It's insidious, and it's just as much our problem as it is for every well-intentioned Whiteman and Whitewoman who's ever tried to come on any Rezz and "help." It's always a disaster. That's not an exaggeration. Let me reiterate it again to make sure you get the nauseating significance of it: Native cultures have been so methodically attacked at every angle for so many generations that we are today the personifications of the lost cause of lost causes.

Too brutal? Too pessimistic? Let me accentuate the postive, just to show that I'm a cockeyed optimist at heart, but without ignoring the Reality of the American Psychosis towards Natives (which is the same psychosis "THEY" have towards the Earth). I'll tell you two short stories and then get off your back; I admit it, Earth First! has gotten me excited again.

Once upon a time, South Dakota Governor Janklow (famous for his statement during Wounded Knee in 1973: "We should put a bullet in the heads of those AIM leaders.") decided the Black Hills needed a 5,000 acre low-level nuclear waste dump. He announced his intentions to introduce such a bill to the State Legislature a few weeks before the 1983 session, expecting to get it passed in that totally Republican State before anyone else could recognize the foul significance of it and get appropriately mobilized. But a sharp-eyed writer at the Black Hills Alliance, Jan Stites, picked up on it and led a ferocious attack upon the indifferent citizenry of the State — and their representatives — by issuing a 50-page report on the idiocy of these low-level Interstate Compacts. It was all a little too technical for me, but we gave Jan top priority and had several press conferences a week announcing a few facts on the matter of nuclear waste that had somehow failed to appear from the Governor's Office or any of the aboveground media. Still it did not seem we could stop the popular Governor's popular rape-juggernaut through the State Government. On top of that, Indians began mumbling in the halls of the BHA office that "that white woman" was hogging all the publicity and not including any Indians or Indian issues in her campaign. It came to a head when Shorty Blacksmith, a full-blood Lakota from Pine Ridge and an Elder, started screaming at Jan in my office that she "didn't care about Indians at all." I intervened with no regard for my own life and suggested the three of us drive 100 miles to Pine Ridge to get a resolution from the Tribal Council denouncing the dump and then hold an Indian Press Conference. We all agreed and piled into Jan's rattletrap Chevy — Jan was pretty rattled by all of this, too, since she had only recently arrived in Indian Country from somewhere out West called San Francisco. Shorty got us in on the weekly Council meeting. Tribal President Joe American Horse and everyone else was very happy to see us make the trip to the Reservation, and Jan was very eloquent in her presentation of the problem to the astounded Council of 24 community leaders (whose ancestors included Red Cloud, Crazy Horse, etc.). They tabled all other business and passed a unanimous resolution condemning the proposed dump, which would be only 35 miles from the Rezz, plus it would be on the Cheyenne River which would lead into the Missouri River and on downstream.

"No one," said John Steele, Tribal VP, "has *ever* come to us and offered to help at no charge. Thank you."

We took the notarized resolution from the Council and drove another 200 miles to the Capitol City (blowing a fan belt in the middle of the night in the middle of Nowhere, South Dakota) where Shorty read it to an astounded State Senate Affairs Committee at 8 the next morning. He also invoked NRC regulations that Indian Tribes *must* be consulted on such matters. We gave Jan's 50-page report to every member of the Legislature. We even got representatives of the Sierra Club and the League of Women Voters coming around asking astounded questions! The Governor's bill passed the Senate, but was tabled in the House. It was postponed for a year, in which time the LWV and Sierrans got an Initiative on the ballot and



Black Hills (Paha Sapa).

Lakota Elders. Nellie Red Owl on left.

ECOLOGICAL DECAY AS A CONTRIBUTION TO POLITICAL VIOLENCE

By Eric Holle

Somewhere in Latin America, Juan and Maria Martinez live in poverty. They are farmers, and their growing number of children combine with the constant loss of toposil from their marginal farmland to make life increasingly difficult. They are angered by the fact that 7% of the population in their country owns 93% of the arable land. Some of their relatives have no land at all.

Juan and Maria dream about acquiring enough additional land to support their growing family, but the only land available is tropical rainforest inhabited by indigenous forest people who resist settlers moving in. Clearing such land for agriculture seems futile because it soon loses its ability to sustain crops or livestock. Besides, they cannot hope to compete with US and World Bank supported corporations that deforest and overgraze tropical forests to raise beef for America's fast food industry.

A drought occurs, and as their children become seriously undernourished, Juan and Maria go in desperation to the city, to join relatives in the shantytowns inhabited by thousands like themselves. They find no real opportunities there, and eventually become involved in political movements and even food riots in an attempt to survive. The government decides Juan is a political threat and, fearing for his life, he flees to another country seeking asylum. He is denied asylum, deported, tortured and killed upon arrival back in his country. Those in his family still alive have joined the guerilla movement to overthrow the US supported government.

This oversimplified scenario is unrealistic in the sense that few individuals have probably all of these debilitating experiences. It points out, however, an important link between an ailing environment and war. The direct effects of war on the environment are well documented and obvious, but the environmental factors leading to war have generally been ignored.

A recent report by Earthscan, a news and information service of the International Institute for Environment and Development, attempts to bridge this gap by documenting links between ecological decay, environmental bankruptcy, and political and military instability. Written by Lloyd Timberlake and Jon Tinker, **ENVIRONMENT AND CONFLICT** does not argue that environmental problems are the major cause of violent confrontations, but that they are significant and overlooked causes in a complex process. It also argues that the process is independent of political philosophy, as it is common to both right and left wing governments.

Security analysts tend to ignore environmental factors, and environmentalists fail to adequately consider economic, social and political factors which undermine basic security. Many governments in Latin America, for example, rely only on military solutions to revolutionary movements, and the US supports only military, economic, and political solutions while ignoring the need to restore the sustainable resource base in the region.

The 1984 Kissinger report, for instance, called for unrealistic increases in agricultural production while ignoring the need for land, forest and watershed rehabilitation in environmentally devastated areas like El Salvador.

Military forces could be, but are not, used to fight erosion and desertification. "Life squads" could replace death squads to enhance the image of many Latin American govenments. As a former US State Department official has said, "If a foreign power seized several hundred square kilometers of Sudanese territory, the government would not hesitate to send out the army. Yet every year, hundreds of square kilometers of valuable land are irrevocably lost to that nation through bad land management, and the government accepts it meekly."

ENVIRONMENT AND CONFLICTcites numerous examples from around the world where degradation of forests and soil, shared river basins and shared marine fisheries are closely linked to internal and international conflict. In addition to Latin America, deforestation and soil loss have been a destabilizing force in Poland, Ethiopia, Iran, and Afghanistan. In Poland, 1972-5 saw the loss of over 17% of the prime agricultural land to industrial and urban development. As agricultural production in the late '70's continued to fall, the government attempted to raise food prices, leading to food riots and eventually to the formation of the trade union Solidarity. The 1974 coup in Ethiopia was due in part to deforestation, overpopulation, and inequitable land holding followed by drought and famine.

In Iran, lack of land for subsistence led to massive urban migrations which focused attention on the disparities between rich and poor. Subsequent strikes helped undermine the economy, leading to the 1978 overthrow of the Shah. Severe erosion, drought and famine in Afghanistan in 1971-2 helped lead to a coup in 1973, followed by a pro-Soviet coup in 1978. "The common factors," say Timberlake and Tinker, "are not socialism or market economies, pro-Soviet or pro-American politics, but soil loss and declining food production."

Environmental refugees continue to leave worn out lands, creating destabilizing pressures on host countries and armed conflict in their own countries. Immigration to the US and Canada from Mexico is estimated at 1,000 per day, while immigration from Bangladesh to Assam in India in 1983 led to violence with over 3,000 killed. Foresters and settlers fight with indigenous people in India, Thailand, and Amazonia, where over 10,000 Indians have been killed. Thousands have also died in political violence inspired by ecological decay and overpopulation in the Chittagong Hill Tracts of Bangladesh.

Growing demands for water lead to tensions between governments in areas where several countries share the same rivers. Conflicts between the US and Mexico, India and Pakistan, Brazil and Argentina, and Chile and Bolivia center around increasing salinization, hydroprojects, threats of flooding and simple over-use. Deforestation complicates matters by decreasing the ability of the land to absorb water, leading to erosion and flooding.

Disputes over fishing rights are responsible for serious and often violent conflicts between Japan and Russia, the US and Latin America (Peru for example), and Iceland and Great Britain. As over-fishing continues to deplete stocks, increased tensions are bound to result.

ENVIRONMENT AND CONFLICT cites many more examples of the link between environment and political stability. The inability of the land to support human populations is a factor to which individuals, governments, and economic development institutions must begin paying serious attention if they want to avoid wars.

As Peter Thatcher, former Deputy Executive Director of the UN Environmental Program states: "The choice for governments is either to find the means by which to pay now to stop the destruction of their natural resource base, or to be prepared to pay later, possibly in blood."

Holle is an environmental associate of the Rocky Mountain Peace Center in Boulder, Colorado.

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the last I heard, the dump was dead. Elected Council members from all 7 Sioux Reservations in South Dakota held a gigantic press conference reading resolutions from all of their Councils denouncing the dump and everyone got their faces on TV all over the place.

From that experience we naturally segued into the 2nd short story I promised you. A Black Hills Land Bill was sprouting out of all 9 Sioux Nations and the Arapaho Nation (all of whom signed the 1868 Ft. Laramie Treaty). The Bill was (is) a compromise on the uncompromising Treaty which Americans utterly refuse to acknowledge. The "Treaty Bill" — as I like to call it — was (is) long and complicated, but its essense is that Indians will take over the management of all public lands in the area but leave private lands alone. The land in question is roughly half of South Dakota from the eastern bank of the Missouri River to the Wyoming, Nebraska, and North Dakota borders — about 7 million acres. The Sioux promise not to blow up Mount Rushmore if the Americans will get the hell off the sacred Bear Butte.

For the first time in history ALL the 10 Treaty Nations gathered in Rapid City in March, 1983, and vowed solidarity with each other on this Land Bill. They agreed to have a few more meetings on each Reservation to work out a few minor details on the 4th draft of the Bill, and then traditional Elders sat down to a Buffalo Feast with modern Tribal Council politicians and partied. It was great. Magic was in the air. I was invited to sit at the great round table with all the chiefs and Tribal Presidents to discuss the Bill the next day, and then we walked out of the meeting when the "Justice Department" of the United States of America tried to sit down with us too, They tried to buy us out with $50,000 to "help" the Steering Committee submit the Bill to the US Congress.

Of course it all fell apart within a few months after that. That fifty grand began to eat away at a few guys, and bickering began, which escalated into open fights and impasse. John Steele told me a few weeks ago that they're still pushing for it, but the Bill hasn't gone to Congress yet. (The judicial system, of course, is no longer an avenue for us, since the Supreme Court in 1980 announced that the Treaty was a valid document, and what was done to the Sioux and Arapaho *was* (not *is*) "a deplorable chapter in our national history," BUT . . . hey guys, we can't give you all that land *back!* Ha ha! We'll give you 14 cents an acre instead.)

So where does that leave us? The BHA couldn't pay rent and couldn't get a paper out and couldn't do much more than cause trouble at a few meetings and celebrate the NEW MOON FEAST at Yellow Thunder every month. There were lots of rip-offs and a lot of people got pissed-off and the Black Hills Alliance was shut down. The same old story. Leonard Peltier in Marion Pen was a more effective leader deep in his "Behavior Moidification Unit" than anyone else out in the open. I don't know the answer, other than to give this information to Art Goodtimes and see if Earth First! can help us. The potential is enormous and I hope we can all still somehow work together. I know this is kind of a dribbly way to end a dribbly article, but that seems to be the story of 500 years of inter-tribal relationships on this hemisphere. Let's try to work together, maybe? It's corny, I know, and we've all heard it before, but . . . .

WARNING
RESTRICTED AREA
IT IS UNLAWFUL TO ENTER THIS AREA WITHOUT PERMISSION OF THE INSTALLATION COMMANDER.
WHILE ON THIS INSTALLATION ALL PERSONNEL AND THE PROPERTY UNDER THEIR CONTROL ARE SUBJECT TO SEARCH.
USE OF DEADLY FORCE AUTHORIZED.

Uranium pits in Black Hills.

Letters (cont)

Raise grazing fees. Stop rangeland "improvements" in fragile, or historically ungrazed wildlife habitat. Abolish the BLM's single-use grazing advisory boards, and instead let ranchers work through enlarged, multiple-use advisory councils. Start removing cows from unsuitable or intended natural areas!

Yours truly,
Elliott Bernshaw
SLC, UT

See the order form in the back for information on how to get this book for only one dollar.

To whom it may concern:

My name is Fred E. Libbey and I don't appreciate you using my name in reference to trash like bureaucrats rednecks foresters and the like, as it was in the June 21, 1985 *Earth First!* I practically shit a ring around myself. Here my name was being strewn all over the newspapers and for such usage. Blasphemy! That's what it is. It's blaspheming my name to use it in vain. And I do not dig it. I don't know who the buggers are that you're up against but why don't you call them Ralphs or Murphys? Not Freddies - no way.

So what's the bitch. The Earth is screwed up already -

"What have they done to the Earth
What have they done to our fair Sister
Ripped her and bit her
Stuck her with knives in the side of the dawn
Tied her with fences and dragged her down"

It was a song a long time ago when we were kids. It was by the "Doors" but I can't remember the rest.

Please don't tell me to change my name, either. It won't work. But please try to help me understand this shit. Tell me something so I can rest my mind and not have to think that somebody is turning my name into evil. I mean seriously, folks, how would you like it if I named a skunk Doug Fur?

Treefully yours,
Fred E. Libbey
Albany, OR

Dear Earth First!ers,

It was a damp, dark, gloomy day in La Calada, a suburb outside of Los Angeles, 1500 feet in the Angeles National Forest; be assured we are not encroaching on the forest.

Suddenly — Holy shit! What's this — here I am reading an article on Earth First! in the LA Times. The day has brightened!

The article makes it appear Earth First!ers are going to monkeywrench the world (not a bad idea). But you read it, maybe I am wrong. Oh! this 52 year old tax collector isn't the only EF! person in LA.

Keep it up, Dave. I've been with you from the Damn Cracking. "What a long strange trip it's been." Hope all goes well with Howie, he has my support.

Namaste,
Susan Frank

The article appeared in the LA Times, Sept. 5,1985, Part V.

Dear *Earth First!:*

Your (our?) major problem is that Thomas Jefferson (who, incidentally, was a revolutionary) was ignored to begin with, so the corporations took over with the military to do the bidding.

Best,
Henry S. Smith
Colton, CA

REVIEWS

By Dolores LaChapelle

Review of WHO SPEAKS FOR WOLF by Paula Underwood Spencer. Tribe of Two Press, Texas, 1985. $16.00 (available by mail from WAY OF THE MOUNTAIN CENTER, Box 542, Silverton, CO 81433. Add $1 for postage).

Our society's fundamental attitudes are mirrored very clearly in children's stories. Humanity's present attitude toward other species has resulted in two general types of animal stories for children: "cute" animal stories or fables, where humans disguised as animals teach morals and other matters to children. For over ten years I've been looking for a book to read to children that wasn't merely human centered. Finally this year I found one. *Who Speaks for Wolf* shows that it is possible for humans to live fully only if they allow the same freedom to all other species.

The author's great-great grandmother, traditional "Keeper of the Old Things" for her tribe, left her Oneida home in 1800 when the tribal council decided to abandon their ancient traditions. She took refuge among the Quakers and passed her oral traditions along to her descendants. Paula's father taught her in the old way when she was small but warned her things would not be right to tell the stories until she was fifty. So she got her Master's degree and worked in governmental affairs in Washington, DC, and raised her children in the white man's world. Now they are grown and this is her first book. Her traditional stories go clear back to when the tribe crossed the Bering Strait 10,000 years ago. This depth gives great power to her stories. The book is typeset in such a manner that one automatically chants when reading it aloud, which adds further power.

The story begins with Wolf standing at the edge of the light looking at the fire and grandfather explains to the small boy why Wolf stands there. He begins:

"LONG AGO . . . LONG AGO . . . LONG AGO" and tells of when the people grew so)many they had to find a new place. They thought they had considered all things but forgot Wolf. The new place they found turned out to be the "Center place for a great community of wolves." They tried leaving food out for Wolf, etc., but none of these ways worked.

"THEY SAW
That it was possible
to hunt down this Wolf People
until they were no more"

But "such a task would change the People:
they would become Wolf Killers

. . .

IT DID NOT SEEM TO THEM
THAT THEY WANTED TO BECOME SUCH A PEOPLE

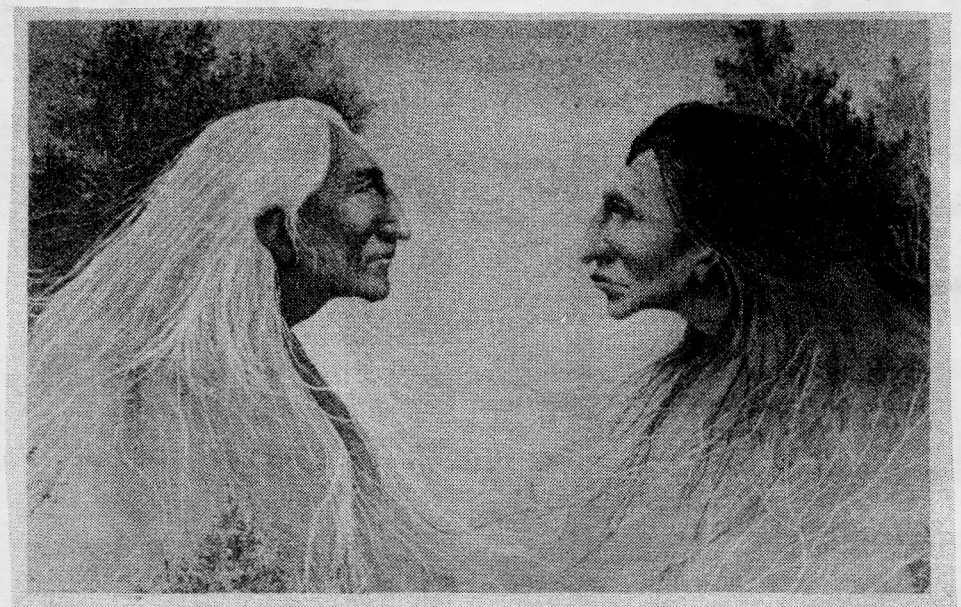
So they moved when winter was over and "they devised a way of asking each other questions . . . to remind us of things we do not yet see clearly enough to remember."

TELL ME NOW MY BROTHERS
TELL ME NOW MY SISTERS
WHO SPEAKS FOR WOLF?"

And they always remembered to ask Wolf's question until the "wooden ships came bringing a new people," whitemen, and they looked at them and "saw that what we accomplish by much thought and considering the needs of all, they accomplish by building tools and changing the Earth . . . . We could not teach them to ask Wolf's question. They did not understand he was their brother . . . ."

Who Speaks for Wolf is told with such skill that any child hearing this story often will grow up knowing not to overpopulate the earth. Yet the book never directly mentions population control so it can't be condemned by self-righteous people.

The book is cloth bound, with 7 full color paintings and 16 drawings by noted artist, Frank Howell. It's expensive but you and your children will read and reread this book together for years and grow in understanding each time. The chanting style makes the book just as moving for adults when a group reads it aloud together.



AND SO IT WAS
That the People devised among themselves
a way of asking each other questions

Dolores LaChapelle lives in the mountains of southwestern Colorado and is a noted student of Deep Ecology. She is the author of several books including Earth Wisdom.

By Gregory McNamee

Review of Jonathon Porritt, SEEING GREEN: THE POLITICS OF ECOLOGY EXPLAINED (Basil Blackwell, Inc.). 251 pages. $6.95 paperback.

One third of Germany's once extensive forests have been destroyed by industrial pollutants in the last twenty years. Since 1949, Britain has lost 95 percent of its meadowlands to industrial and urban growth. Scandinavia's lakes have been irreparably damaged by acid rain in a generation's time. European and American lumber corporations destroy 18 million acres of rainforest each year (for purposes of comparison, note that the entire Amazon rainforest comprises 700 million acres, an area about three times the size of France). Eurasia's rivers run with industrial waste. Dioxin and other toxic-waste dumps dot the European landscape from the south of Italy to Scotland.

Small wonder that throughout Europe so-called "green parties," committed to halting global environmental destruction, have sprung up and become powerful political forces. Green successes have been many in the past ten years, especially in West Germany, the home of *die Grunen*, and England, where the Ecology Party has enjoyed a number of parliamentary victories; and public sympathy for Europe's green parties is growing every year.

In *Seeing Green*, Jonathon Porritt, director of the United Kingdom branch of the Friends of the Earth, sets forth the general principles that unite the European greens. Porritt presents an overview of the greens' aims, and he makes clear throughout that the greens, contrary to European and American media and government claims, are not offshoots of Europe's communist parties, blindly following the dictates of Moscow, but rather represent an entirely new political movement devoted to the destruction both of capitalism and of communism, ideologies that Porritt holds are in reality one: industrialism. As Porritt, writes,

We profoundly disagree with the politics of the right and its underlying ideology of capitalism; we profoundly disagree with the politics of the left and its adherence, in varying degrees, to the ideology of communism. That leaves us little choice but to disagree, perhaps less profoundly, with the politics of the centre and its ideological potpourri of socialized capitalism. The politics of the Industrial Age, left, right, and centre, is like a three-way motorway, with different vehicles in different lanes, but all *heading in the same direction. Greens feel it is the very direction that is wrong, rather than the choice of one lane in preference to the others. It is our perception that the motorway of industrialism inevitably leads to the abyss — hence our decision to get off, and seek an entirely different direction.*

Porritt goes on to describe European green-party positions on a number of contemporary political questions: the abolition of nuclear-arms and -power development; a halt to Europe's reliance on fossil fuels and the development of alternative energy sources; the dissolution of the European Economic Community — the so-called Common Market — on the grounds that the EEC fosters an uncompromising industrialist economy; demilitarization; and, the thorniest problem of all, the creation of a new economic and political order founded upon and guided by ecological concerns. In treating these various issues, Porritt is long on theory and short on immediate practical actions; but that is not necessarily a failing in what is, after all, a political manifesto, meant to explain a cause and convert readers to it.

Seeing Green is a useful book for American environmentalists, especially those who hold that there can be a third-party alternative to the industrialist Democratic and Republican party stranglehold on American politics. (Whether a third party can survive under our present political system is an academic question for the time being; Porritt has great hopes, for whatever reason, for Barry Commoner's Citizens Party.) As a primer in how direct political action and resistance can affect the runaway course of industrialism, too, reminding its audience that politics does not consist entirely of protest, *Seeing Green* is inspiring reading for American greens, whose time is coming.

Gregory McNamee is the co-editor of RESIST MUCH, OBEY LITTLE, a critical anthology on the writings of Edward Abbey, which is available from Earth First! in Tucson.

By Australopithecus

Review of *The Parable of the Tribes: The Problem of Power in Social Evolution* by Andrew Bard Schmookler. University of California Press. 400pp., $19.95

Andrew Bard Schmookler's recent book, *The Parable of the Tribes*, is one of the more impressive and important books of this decade. In it, Schmookler looks back through history and pre-history to learn how we humans got ourselves and all life into such a dismal mess.

Schmookler's basic thesis is that after civilization began, violence between different peoples — and stemming from that, violence against Earth — became an inevitable part of the evolution of humanity. The "parable of the tribes" explains this inevitability roughly as follows: As long as neighboring tribes all act peacefully, peace reigns; but as soon as any one tribe becomes aggressive, all tribes must adopt the ways of violence. Consider a tribe's alternatives when faced by a hostile neighbor: The peaceful tribe can surrender, flee, or fight; any of which amounts to a victory for the ways of violence. Even as natural evolution selects for the strongest organisms and/or communities of organisms, social evolution selects for the most powerful societies. (Schmookler uses the word 'power' in the sense of power over; it would be worthwhile to see a critique of Schmookler's theories by someone, e.g. Joanna Macy, within the growing movement of persons who think that power in the sense of power over could be replaced by power in the sense of power with.) Societies attain power partly by developing technologies which exploit nature, hence nature too becomes a victim of the power struggles of social evolution.

Schmookler's parable offers a simple yet compelling theory on the downfall of humanity. For this and many other reasons, Schmookler's work is brilliant. One of the most pleasing aspects of the book for those of us with a primeval bent is his discussion of the harmonious ways of life of primal peoples. Primal peoples generally seem to have lived lives unfettered by the many restrictions that make modern life unpleasant; restrictions such as tedious labor, or contrived notions of good and evil (morality is a human construct arising after humanity's fall from the state of nature, Schmookler's work suggests).

Despite all its good points, Schmookler's book will often disappoint many readers. Political leftists will be aghast to read his discussion of the merits of US capitalism vs. Soviet communism, in which Schmookler says that the US system is basically decent whereas the Soviet system is basically bad. The latter claim is reasonable; the former is not. Feminists may resent the lack of attention Schmookler pays to the ways in which violence against Earth and humans has been historically tied to the male dominance of societies for the past 8000 years or so. Ernest Becker, the late highly acclaimed author of *The Denial of Death* would think that Schmookler overlooks the immense importance of fear of death in shaping human cultures. Biologists might question his strong stress on competition as the driving force in evolution, insofar as he underrates the importance of cooperation (symbiosis) in shaping evolution. We radical ecologists wish Schmookler had discussed in more detail how his parable ties in with violence against Earth. Furthermore, we may question whether Schmookler's is a biocentric perspective on life. Some of us grow apprehensive when we read "there is something special about the human animal." We are apt to agree more with his suggestion that human consciousness may prove to be merely an unsucessful evolutionary experiment.

Lastly, anyone wishing for an answer to the world's desperate plight will not find it. Schmookler explains how we entered our plight, but not how we can escape it. He hints that his theoretical solution is forthcoming. This does not inspire confidence; if he is as thorough in this next project, it may not appear until after most of Earth is a wasteland.

By Bill Devall

Review of THE NATURAL ALIEN: HUMANKIND AND ENVIRONMENT, by Neil Evernden. University of Toronto Press, 1985.

The relationship between mind and nature is the central concern of human ecology. The dominant way of seeing nature in modern culture is through science, based on Descartes' objectification of nature and his mind-body dualism. In this mode of seeing nature, all nature is revealed to us only as a collection of objects or "things" which can be manipulated by humans for short term human goals or purposes.

Even the science of ecology is caught in this way of seeing nature. As Evernden says, "ecology can help one to criticize inefficient exploitation or destructive utilization of nature, but it cannot help illuminate the experience that inspires one to be an environmentalist." (p. 22)

Thus the dilemma of the environmentalist who is concerned with experiencing his or her place.

"I have suggested earlier that environmentalism, like Romanticism, constitutes a defence of value. I am now asserting an even more fundamental role, the

defence of meaning. We call people environmentalists because what they are finally moved to defend is what we call environment. But, at bottom, their action is a defence of cosmos, not scenery. Ironically, the very entity they defend — environment — is itself an offspring of the nihilistic behemoth they challenge. It is a manifestation of the way we view the world." (p. 124)

Evernden draws from phenomenology and biology to present an alternative approach to that of modern science to seeing ourselves in nature. "Phenomenology requires a return to the things themselves, to a world that precedes knowledge and yet is basic to it, as countryside is to geography and blossoms to botany. This seems initially confusing, for we think of knowledge as something achieved through observation and analysis, not as something which precedes it. Yet this notion presupposes an observor who surveys the world and questions it . . . ." (p. 57)

Evernden draws from the work of Merleau-Ponty, Martin Heidegger and R.D. Laing to introduce the reader clearly and succinctly to the context of mind-in-nature.

He draws from some threads of modern biology to suggest that humans, as a species, may be "natural aliens" who are at home everywhere but, paradoxically, nowhere.

Humans, generally, exhibit both psychologically and biologically neotenic characteristics. These youthful characteristics which F.J.J. Buytendikj identifies as "want of direction," "drive to movement," "characteristically pathic behavior," and "an ambiguity of the to and fro" are encouraged in modern cultures especially, as Paul Shepard has brilliantly demonstrated in his book NATURE AND MADNESS (Sierra Club Books, 1982).

But there is hope for this rootless, homeless, "natural alien" to develop into mature self-in-nature.

Evernden concludes that the very adaptability of humans shows they are open to other modes of awareness than that dictated by the contemporary dominating paradigm. And he envisions a very different role for the environmental movement than that usually ascribed to it. Instead of studying forest plans and making alternative estimates of offshore oil reserves or commenting on environmental impact statements, the 'environmentalist' can shed his label. When he or she sheds the label 'environmentalist' "many other names and beliefs may be simultaneously dislodged, and then, just possibly, he can begin to glimpse the creature he might be . . . . The demise of 'environmentalist' may be a first step in a cultural mutation." (p. 144)

One way to shed the label 'environmentalist' is to engage in what Joseph Campbell calls 'creative mythology.'

One aspect of this is to find models of the mature, adult human, the self-in-Great-Self or person-in-environment.

Bigfoot, the hairy primate of the Pacific Northwest, provides one model for the mature human. Stories of Bigfoot and sightings suggest not a 'lost ape,' but adult *Homo sapiens* who have been transformed into peaceful, perhaps playful beings who live in small groups without the need of vast technology or warfare, who are 'at home' in their place — woods, mountains, rivers, meadows. Dwelling in a different dimension than our own perceived space and time, Bigfoot might be engaged in experiencing its place deeply and richly without alienation and separation.

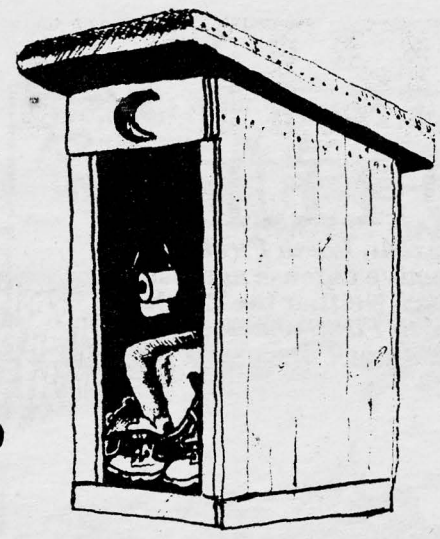
Bigfoot could be an expression of the future primal mind-in-nature.

In sum, Evernden's provocative and powerful essay suggests that 'environmentalists' have a calling to help people move into a different territory. 'Environmentalists' cannot provide a map to the territory, but they can show the distortions, blindness and limitations of the dominant maps used in our culture. We don't know what will be discovered by *dwellling* in our abode, but by this process of discovering, or revealing an opening in this old/new territory as if we were seeing it for the first time, the 'environmental crisis' may disappear because humans are engaging in the 'real work' of discovering their homeland.

Bill Devall is a professor at Humboldt State University, Arcata, California, and the co-author of DEEP ECOLOGY: LIVING AS IF NATURE MATTERED.

View from the Outhouse

Blueberries and the Bomb



By Robert Streeter

I have decided, for purely sentimental reasons, to pick blueberries in the meadow near the cabin from which I recently moved. I cannot justify this five mile excursion in the car since there are plenty of blueberries within walking distance of my present cabin. But this is something I must do. Old stomping grounds linger in the memory, often indelibly, and do not easily fade.

From the new cabin I walk down the steep, hemlock-scented trail which leads to the logging road and the car. It is a short walk to the car this time of year. It will increase by a half-mile or so when the snow flies. That's okay. We are an upright species which functions quite well on our own two feet, but most of modern America has chosen to let their legs atrophy in deference to their bellies. That is an evolutionary shame. The human leg is a terrible thing to waste.

The car rumbles and belches now and then, disturbing the silence, creaking like an old ship when one side rides low in a rut, twisting and bending to the road's demand. I like this sort of road. It offers austere, unforgiving limits which cannot be ignored. It teaches patience.

I leave the logging road with a final creak and turn toward the blueberry patch of my past. I know it is there; I know it is waiting; I know what it smells like, feels like, tastes like. I know it would never let me down, even if I leave with my pail half full, for the place is more than the berries. It is the sum of the senses which make the experience, which make the place, and it is this final sense of place that satisifies.

I come to the only intersection at the center of this tiny rural town, an intersection where the undulating pavements of two county roads come together, melded into one for only an instant. I stop, staring straight ahead, and am catapulted 40 years into the past by a message within the sterile four corners of the intersection. HIROSHIMA: NEVER AGAIN. A poignant silhouette of a human accompanies the bold white letters. I sit motionless, comprehending the terrible meaning behind the silhouette, behind the charred shadows of death so patriotically applied.

When our people dropped the first atomic bomb on Hiroshima, those human beings within 300 meters of ground zero were instantly vaporized by the heat, leaving behind only their shadows. During the dark hours before dawn on the fortieth anniversary of Hiroshima's bombing, the shadows were pulled from the past and memorialized on the streets and sidewalks of America. It was not the act of vandals. It was the act of responsible human beings who can see the connection between the arms race and nuclear annihilation, and they simply wished to make the dangers more vivid. The shadows were painted with whitewash and will fade with the rains of the season. The shadows of Hiroshima did not.

I turn at the intersection, drive a few miles, and park on a quiet hillside at the head of a trail. I walk it quickly, bucket dangling from my neck, and encounter the meadow, the place. Sunshine warms my back and shows me the pure and naked beauty of this place; the aster and the goldenrod, the hawk on a rising thermal, the midnight blue of the berries. I pick them with both hands, absorbed in the tonic of the moment.

We must choose between the blueberry and the bomb. There are those who believe in the bomb and wish to nurture it, protect it, be guided by its power. They say there is no going back. They will tell you this from any pew in any denomination on any Sunday; from any stool in any bar on any Saturday night. They have chosen to live by the bomb, supporting the machine that produces it. If those of their ilk prevail, we will die by the bomb.

The sweet fragrance of Queen Anne's lace catches my nose. My finger tips and tongue are stained with blue. This place tugs at me from miles away and I've never questioned its magic, or my choice.

Photo by Robert Streeter.

WOLF-RIVER

By Lone Wolf Circles

Inspired by the girl at the Rendezvous
Dedicated to my friend Bill Devall

I am a river. I wear away with my intensity the rough boundaries that would contain me.

I am everchanging, yet always the same. None fully understand my complexities, so I am alternately lusted for and feared.

Cultures and religions spring from my fertile banks, mystery flowers and myth is fused to reality.

I can both cool you and heat you. I am the real meaning of "wet dreams" — experience my flow.

Leap into my movement and I will touch you everywhere at once. I will enter your openings and exhilarate you. The dampness you hide in public is me calling you.

I howl down ancient Indian canyons, endlessly pursuing freedom like a fleeing deer. I wash away dams and aluminum trailers — child's play. My wet sounds are the soundtrack for lovers, Earth First! tree huggers, and the rapid movements of duck wings.

Your love and appreciation are blossoms tossed into my swirling waters. They tickle my wolf-belly, touch my hidden secrets.

I'll carry your gifts with me: my friend's firm support, and lover's abandon. I'll fondle the petals, sniff its persistent musk. If you are far away, and hear a roaring in your ears, it is I, Wolf-River, loving you back.

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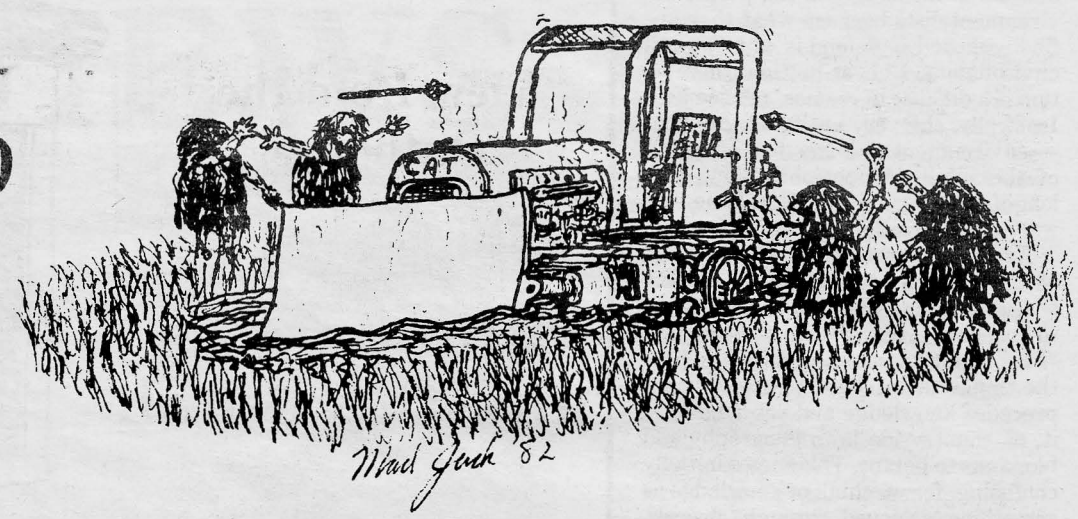
DEAR NED LUDD

DEAR NED LUDD is a regular feature in *Earth First!* for discussion of creative means of effective defense against the forces of industrial totalitarianism. Neither the Earth First! movement nor the staff of *Earth First!* necessarily encourage anyone to do any of the things discussed in DEAR NED LUDD.



FOILING THE DETECTORS: NON-METALLIC TREE SPIKES

By T.O. Hellenbach

Tree spiking has forced the development of a number of countermeasures, the most significant of which include the use of metal detectors to locate metallic spikes imbedded in tree trunks. Some spikers have advocated the use of ladders to plant spikes high in trees, out of the reach of hand-held metal detectors. Unfortunately, the risk of hauling a bulky object such as a ladder while engaged in illegal activities is rendered unnecessarily dangerous by the fact that most sawmills (and all of those in National Forests where spiking is common) routinely screen all fallen logs at the mill to remove commonplace metallic objects like nails and old barbed wire. Obviously, conventional metal spikes will be detected before reaching their intended target — the costly sawmill blade.

Ongoing research has developed several non-metallic spikes, or pins, that promise to defeat the metal detector and wreak havoc inside the sawmill. The first of these, as depicted in the current episode of "Blade Ruiner" is a high-fired ceramic pin made of the same type of commonplace stoneware used by potters who hand-throw (on a potter's wheel) the usual line of cups, bowls, plates, etc. The primary ingredient is stoneware clay, produced in a wide range of formulations by clay companies and ceramic supply outfits scattered across the nation. Most such manufacturers and supppliers are located in large metropolitan areas where monkeywrenchers can purchase their clay over the counter for cash — leaving no paper trail like name and address for the curious police investigator. The clay usually comes in twenty-five pound bags, two such bags making up a fifty-pound box. Be sure that the clay type (known as the "clay body") that you purchase contains no iron oxide, an ingredient that is commonly added to stoneware clays. If sufficiently concentrated, this iron oxide may be picked up by metal detectors. To find a clay that is suitable, make your first inquiry by phone, obtaining the name or number of the stoneware clay that contains no iron oxide. At a later date, send the most inconspicuous-looking member of your spiking team in to purchase a bag or box. If necessary, they can be "picking it up for a friend," or can be college art students purchasing materials for a project.

As an additional measure, these clay bodies can be stiffened and made even more durable by the addition of "grog," a gritty, sand-like material usually made of a high-fired refractory material (ground stoneware) or simply a pure quartz sand. This can also be purchased from clay suppliers, and you should specify an 80 or coarser screening. Do not buy fine powder grog, or "soft" grog made of weaker lower-fired materials. The grog is blended into the clay body through a process called "wedging" which consists of simply kneading the material in by hand until it is thoroughly and evenly distributed throughout the clay. Since clay formulas vary from one type to another and from one company to the next, we cannot specify the amount of grog to add to your clay. Just add a little at a time until the clay feels a little coarser and stiffer. If you add too much, the clay will be hard to roll-out and will not stick together well. Keep in mind that the clay must remain "plastic" to allow you to readily shape it.

When handling the clay directly, always wear plastic gloves. The best type are the disposable examination gloves used by doctors and available at medical supply houses. More expensive, but more readily available, are the plastic gloves sold at all grocery stores in the kitchenware section. These types are more durable and will survive repeated use. Whichever type you use, try to obtain gloves with a skin-tight fit.

The pins are made simply by rolling the clay out to the desired thickness, and cutting them to the appropriate length. As with the metallic pins depicted in the first "Blade Ruiner" episode, you will have to use a drill to make a hole in the tree for inserting the pin. Decide first what type of drill (cordless battery-type or old-fashioned brace and bit) you will use and find the largest bit you can readily use, up to one inch in diameter. Experiment on a recently fallen tree to insure that your drill and bit combination allows you to drill a hole up to four or five inches deep. The thicker your ceramic pin is, the more likely it is to either dull or break a sawmill blade. Therefore, if you can drill one-inch-diameter holes, roll out the clay to a one-inch thickness. It will shrink some in drying and firing and will fit easily into a one-inch hole. As to pin length, four inches is about the maximum necessary, but be sure to cut some shorter lengths, like two and three inches. In this way, if your drilling should encounter a hard spot like a knot in the wood preventing you from drilling to the desired depth, you can have a shorter pin available for the shallow hole.

Once your pins are rolled and cut, set them aside for a couple of weeks to thoroughly dry. They must be completely dry before firing or they will break apart in firing. Also, make sure the clay is well-compressed during the rolling-out, as even tiny air pockets left inside the clay will blow up during firing.

Finally, your ceramic pins will be ready for the final stage in preparation — the firing. High temperature firing brings about chemical changes in the clay, causing the particles to bond together through vitrification. The end product is a material so hard it will easily scratch glass. In hardness, it ranks with some types of steel. Its molecular bonding does not give it the impact strength of steel, so it will shatter under a heavy blow (making it unsuitable for spiking with hammers). Still, it is high enough on Moh's scale of hardness to cause damage to sawmill blades.

High-temperature firing can be achieved only in a gas-fired kiln. The pins must be fired to "cone 10," which generally ranges from 2350 to 2400 degrees Fahrenheit. Firing to lower temperatures will not produce the same hardness. Following are some of the sources of gas firing:

SCHOOLS. Various college classes, adult education courses, and private instructors maintain gas kilns for student use.

DO-IT-YOURSELF. This approach entails purchasing a gas kiln and making the necessary hookups to a source of bottled LP gas. This entails several hundred dollars in expenses. Be sure to take a college course or private course through a competent potter to learn the principles and mechanics of gas firing before undertaking this step yourself.

CERAMIC SHOPS. Most ceramic shops sell mold-cast pieces for the public to "finish." Their clays are unsuitable for pins and they usually fire only electric kilns up to a cone 5 maximum. Still, if you call around, you might luck onto one that will have a gas kiln and custom fire up to a cone 10.

PRIVATE INDIVIDUALS. Across the nation, there are thousands of professional potters selling their hand-thrown wares through art and craft shows attended by the public. Some of them will be amenable to letting you pay for custom firing in their kilns. This allows you to have the job done professionally. As a way of developing this contact, you might buy several pieces from them at a show, and ask if you can come to their studio in a few weeks to buy more of their wares. If you appear to be a good customer, the potter might agree to firing a few dozen pins for you. To make sure your contact is a competent professional, check out their product line. They should carry a wide range of practical goods (cups, bowls, planters, etc.) and should stock large numbers of items. Avoid those who don't seem to have much to choose from. Check the quality of their firing by breaking one of the inexpensive items you bought from them. The broken edge, revealing the inside of the fired clay, should be a medium to dark brown. If it appears very dark, almost blackish, the work is poorly fired (over-vitrification) and is too brittle. Do not let such a potter do your firing. Make sure you check the broken edge, as an external examination will not reveal this type of sloppy firing. Of course, make sure their goods are stoneware fired to a cone 10.

Security is of primary consideration when firing in someone else's kiln, or when having a custom firing done. If possible, do not use your real name. Never reveal the intended use of the ceramic pins unless the person handling the firing is also a member of your spiking team. Do not attempt to recruit for your spiking team the person doing your firing unless they are a trusted friend of many years' acquaintance, or a trusted relative. If possible have a trusted confidant handle the manufacture and firing of the pins at a location far distant from the forest where they will be used. Try at least for the next state.

When necessary, make up an air-tight reason for your intended use of the pins. Make up a convincing story about how you are going to assemble them into an abstract sculpture. Use your imagination. The possibilities are limitless.

As a further means of obscuring their intended use, fire the pins in twelve inch lengths. These can later be cut-down to suitable lengths using a diamond wire hand saw available for $15 to $25 through a jeweler or lapidary supply house (found in most large cities).

In pursuing the use of the ceramic pin for spiking, it's a good idea to have a member of your team take a college-type course in pottery to familiarize them with the materials, techniques and terminology. This can help in manufacturing a convincing cover story for the firing of your peculiar pins. Competent private instructors, though not as widely available, can be a good source of of schooling and kiln access.

The next episode of "Blade Ruiner" will demonstrate how to place pins in trees destined for the sawmill.

Dear Ned Ludd,

I must take issue with Johnny Fireseed's method of stopping timber sales. In my experience, fires have hastened the developement of roadless areas, not protected them. The Freddies (and the public) regard fires as emergencies and are therefore not bound by the feeble restrictions of land use planning. They use this as an excuse to bulldoze roads, fell trees and otherwise injure and trample a previously wild area. Shortly after a fire, a salvage sale is then conducted. Again, this sale is not bound by land use plans. The board feet sold do not count as part of the Forest's output towards RPA goals, so it doesn't even prevent some other sale from being sold. This is all justified by provisions in the assorted land use laws that allow for "necessary measures" in an emergency to protect "valuable resources," namely board feet of timber.

There is another, emotional, reason why Fireseed's article struck a discordant note. It might be compassion towards a forest community, a type of ecosystem that is already under relentless attack from *Homo sapiens*. It might be humility, a reluctance of a mere person to undertake the perogatives of Thor, the god of storms and lightning. I simply know that human-caused arson in the forest is wrong, for ethical reasons as well as pragmatic arguments.

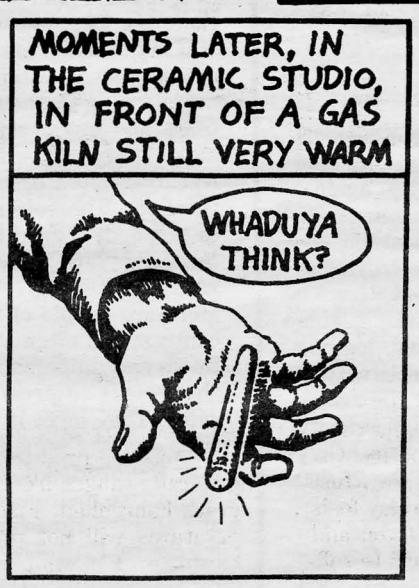
However, I agree entirely with Fireseed's analysis of fire as a natural part of the wild environment. It can be ar-

continued on pg. 28

AND WE THOUGHT THINGS WERE BAD IN THE EIGHTIES!
COMPUTERS

THROUGH THE TEEMING MASSES AND FOUL SULFUROUS AIR OF THE PACIFIC MEGALOPOLIS, MOVES AN UNOBTRUSIVE FIGURE—THE UNDERGROUND HERO KNOWN ONLY AS...
BLADE RUINER
EPISODE 2: FOILING THE DETECTORS

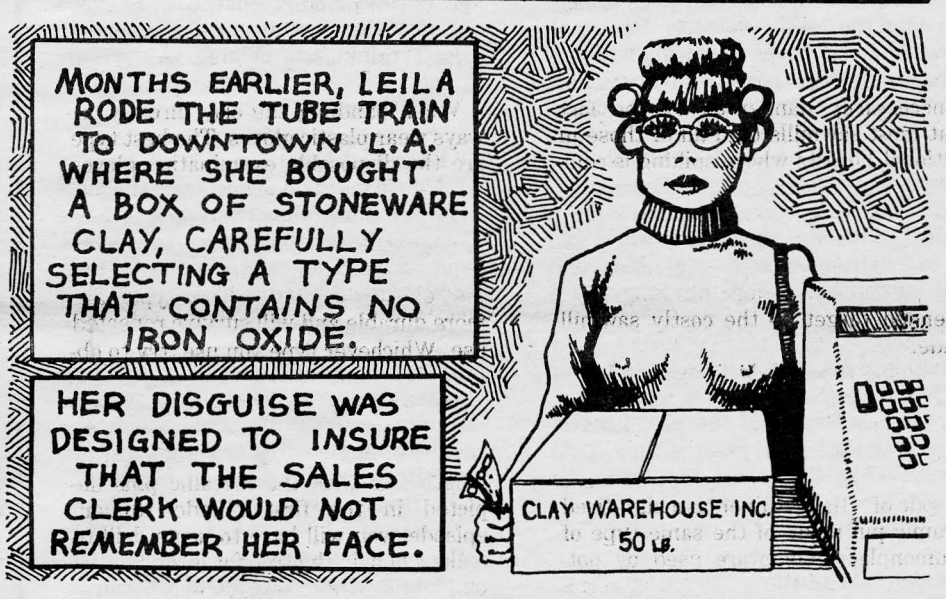
AT THE STUDIO OF A MASTER POTTER...
UP 'N AT 'EM, COMPADRE...YOU GOT MY CUSTOM ORDER?
HUH?


MOMENTS LATER, IN THE CERAMIC STUDIO, IN FRONT OF A GAS KILN STILL VERY WARM
WHADUYA THINK?

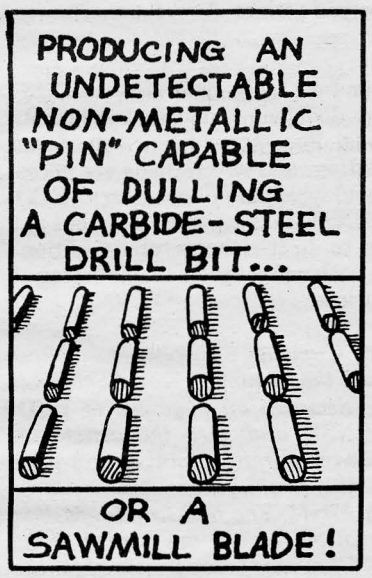
YOU FIRED THESE TO A "CONE TEN"?
OH YEAH... 2400°F, JUST LIKE YOU SAID.

DON'T SUPPOSE I SHOULD EVEN ASK WHAT THEY'RE FOR?
DON'T S'POSE

THE BLADE RUINER MAKES HIS WAY ACROSS TOWN TO THE FOURTH SECTOR TO MEET WITH HIS PARTNER IN MAYHEM...
PURPLE PUSSYCAT CLUB
...A DANCER NAMED 'LEILA'.


MONTHS EARLIER, LEILA RODE THE TUBE TRAIN TO DOWNTOWN L.A. WHERE SHE BOUGHT A BOX OF STONEWARE CLAY, CAREFULLY SELECTING A TYPE THAT CONTAINS NO IRON OXIDE.
HER DISGUISE WAS DESIGNED TO INSURE THAT THE SALES CLERK WOULD NOT REMEMBER HER FACE.
CLAY WAREHOUSE INC.
50 LB.

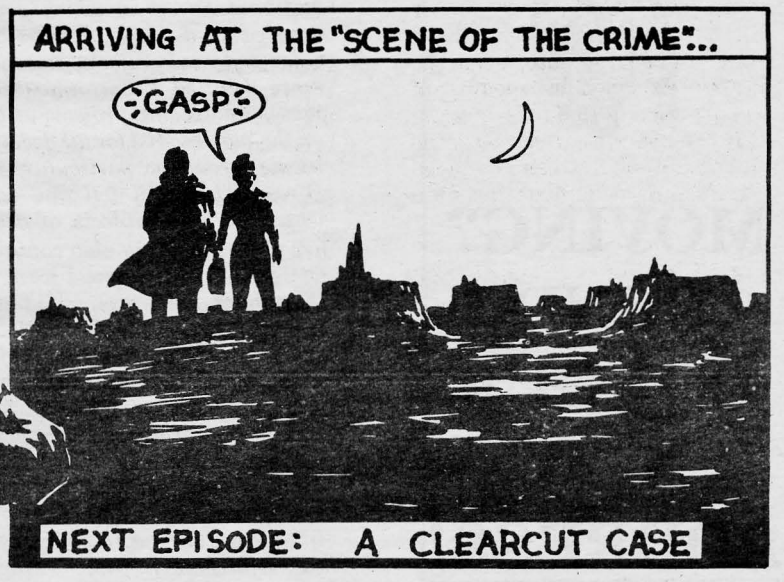
DONNING THROWAWAY PLASTIC SURGICAL GLOVES, THE CLAY IS CAREFULLY ROLLED OUT TO A ONE-INCH THICKNESS...
THEN CUT TO VARIOUS LENGTHS UP TO FOUR INCHES. AFTER DRYING-OUT, THEY'RE KILN-FIRED...


PRODUCING AN UNDETECTABLE NON-METALLIC "PIN" CAPABLE OF DULLING A CARBIDE-STEEL DRILL BIT...
OR A SAWMILL BLADE!

BACK IN LEILA'S "DRESSING" ROOM
A WEEKEND IN THE WOODS? SURE... I'D LOVE TO...

STOP
LOGGING PERSONNEL ONLY BEYOND THIS SIGN
NO TRESPASSING
T.O. TELLENBACH

CAN'T WE EVER JUST GO CAMPING LIKE NORMAL PEOPLE?


ARRIVING AT THE "SCENE OF THE CRIME"...
:GASP:
NEXT EPISODE: A CLEARCUT CASE

Dear Ned (Cont)

gued that in no other way does the Forest Service demonstrate its slavish relationship to the timber industry more clearly than in its fire management policies. The Forest Service should be the object of our attack, not the forest.
Happy Trails,
Nancy

Dear Ned Ludd
Many log mills are starting to get more careful about using metal detectors to find spikes in trees. Instead of trying to develop a spike that will not activate metal detectors, the opposite tact may work better by making the metal detector work against the mill operators. Take a lesson from nature and note the way in which prey confuse predators by mimicry. Specifically, I suggest the following: 1. When protecting a forest, spike your normal fraction of trees in your normal fashion.

2. In every tree in which you have *not* inserted a blade-destroying spike, put in a single small nail that can be driven in with one or two blows. These won't do much damage to the saw blade — but will hopefully trigger the metal detector and shut the saw blade down.

The purpose of this is to have every tree trigger the metal detector and thereby force the mill to search every tree for nails or spikes. As long as some fraction of the trees contain blade-destroying spikes, they cannot afford to take the chance that the tree contains only a harmless small nail. This could destroy the economic incentive of destroying a particular forest.

What is needed is a nail large enough to trip the metal detector but small enough to be driven in quickly with one or two hammer blows — the smallest nail possible that will trigger the detector. This would be much quieter than driving spikes, too. It would also be worth experimenting with the nail drivers used by roofers. These contain a "clip" of nails — swing the driver and a nail is inserted in a single blow and the next nail pushed into place by a spring. Don't bother camouflaging the nail head — your time is better spent putting in another nail.

What we clearly need is information on the sensitivity of the metal detectors. Wouldn't it be great if they could be set off by steel shot? Just spray the forest with your 12 gauge!
- Pine Marten

Dear Ned Ludd
By case hardening your tree spikes you will do at least 3 times the damage to saw blades. I recommend a Rockwell Hardness (RC) of 55-57 single case carborize and harden. Common nails are cold rolled steel (CRS); the metal treater will want to know the type of steel. Look in the yellow pages under metal treatment — in some large city out of state from the area you plan to spike. You should clip the heads off your spikes first, because you cannot cut case hardened steel with bolt cutters or a hacksaw (this is the process used on hardened chains and locks). Be sure to wear safety glasses when you drive case hardened spikes because they will chip or break much easier after being hardened.
- Badger

Dear Ned Ludd
Get off the kick about worrying about the poor logger hurting himself by hitting a nail set low in the tree with his chainsaw. I ran a chainsaw for years, *as a logger*, hit nails, rocks, etc. with no broken chains resulting. I've broken a few chains due to metal fatigue and associated cracking but they stop whirling almost immediately. Once my nephew hit a nail in a tree, went back to the truck to sharpen the chain, and then did the same thing again — with no break. Hell, when I tore down an old barn, I used an old chain on my saw to cut up trusses, etc. that were loaded with nails. I've handled a saw for thousands of hours and I'm not bullshitting. So please drop the wimpy, turn-the-other-cheek, look-out-for-the-poor-logger bit. Set your spikes high and low.
-Jack Frost

Dear Ned Ludd
Spiking trees is probably the most effective single action against logging but with increased security against spikes by the Freddies and logging companies, other measures must not be overlooked. These include destroying or disabling logging equipment, trucks, etc. used by the timber beasts; spiking roads to give crew crummies, logging trucks, and Fred wagons flat tires; and helping the weather render the access roads impassable. Also, a high priority should be made of destroying the heavy equipment that is building the 75,000 miles of new logging access roads in National Forest roadless areas. There are dozens of other techniques I've found in **ECO DEFENSE** that can be used against the destroyers of our forests. Don't think that spiking is the only thing!
- Wolverine

Dear Ned Ludd
A good pair of bolt cutters is the most all-around useful and versatile tool I've found to do the most damage to a vehicle or machine. They can cut locks off doors, compartments, and engine covers to get into the damn things in the first place, and then can mutilate or cut cables, wires, some bolts, shafts, linkages, hoses, clamps, hydraulic lines, various mounts, gauges, dip sticks, caps, the edges of any narrow or thin materials, etc. Be sure to disconnect battery cables first! Take out plugs, bolts, etc. and mutilate holes and threads. Naturally, you should buy your large bolt cutters in a large city out of state from where you plan to operate.
- Weasel

Dear Ned Ludd
How does one know what areas of a National Forest are being considered for cutting, and which roads are necessary and which are unnecessary? **ECO-DEFENSE** tells us what to do but not where to do it. I hope future editions of the book will cover this topic better.
-Curious

Dear Curious
Check the section on Target Selection under Security on page 143 of **ECO-DEFENSE** *and also the article on "Hands-on Forest Planning" on page 24 of the Lughnasadh 1985 issue of* ***Earth First!****. The best way to get this information is to obtain a copy of the Forest Plan now being prepared for the National Forest in which you are interested and study proposed timber sales and road projects. You can receive more detailed Environmental Assessments on specific projects or be placed on the mailing list for all decision documents from a particular National Forest. They will tell you when and where various projects of destruction are occuring. They also contain maps. Of course, you may not want to be on the mailing list yourself, but have a trusted friend — maybe in another state — receive the information and forward it to you; or use an alias and a post office box address. Check also the articles in this newspaper for planned environmental rapes which need stopping. If possible, find out about planned destruction projects several years in advance and begin your tree spiking, etc. beforehand.*
- *Ned*

MOVING? SEND US YOUR NEW ADDRESS!

Deep Ecology Soundtrack

The Country in Country Music

By Lone Wolf Circles

Every year there is less country, and seemingly less country music. True Country is subjective, personal, and makes no apologies. You are not likely to hear much of it on the Country Music Award shows. You can find it in archaic albums that stick with you like old friends and muddy boots, leaving a trail of tales for those who listen. You won't hear much of it on the so-called Country radio stations, except on oldies night. You might listen to it in the dark recesses of small mountain town bars, songs usually sung by their creators, made of tears and sweat and laughter. These songs have smells, like saddle leather, freshly planted earth, and sawdust on the floor. The voices are at their best unpolished, shaped natural like a crystal. They are sometimes grit-edged with the honesty of real experience. Here are people of the earth in sharp contrast and often at odds with the refined and impersonal civilized world that seems to press on them from all sides. They meet it with cynicism, satire, and the superiority a wolf feels over the overfed dogs in town.

Emotive instruments wring out pain and ecstasy, runaway horses and gurgling rivers. Free of legato, country music progresses in spurts like a buckboard lurching forward. The movements are deliberate and without artificial refinement. Historically, country music owes much to the subjective and ultra-personal approach of Black spirituals and blues, drawing rythym from the English and Continental country dance tunes. Inheriting the mantle of the Bard, the rural troubadors whose songs describe the soul and trials of man on the land, Country performers are the American conscience. The experiences of rural America are set in lyrics to music that finds strength in difficulties, laughter in paradox; for listeners who find more time for cynicism than pretense.

Country recordings grew out of the popularity of regional radio shows broadcast live at first in the 1920's and '30's, ranging from the rural fellowship of The Carter Family to the ramblers and rounders of yodeling Jimmie Rogers. With the addition of the "singing cowboys" during the golden age of movies, Country music became a top profit-maker and suffered the decline of quality and bastardization of style that seems to go with success. By the '50's, the style had already suffered from so much polish and glitz as to be shunned by Country purists who instead ushered in a Bluegrass and Folk revival that peaked in the '60's and remains a small but devoted market today. Such purists are preserving not only a form of music, but a set of values and a way of life.

The tension between tradition and innovation is primarily resolved whenever artists forsake gloss for quality, street-cheating images for country images.

Even Country Rock is most effective when the roots are left exposed, when they illustrate the stories of the country men and women who gave birth to this purely American musical style.

Bob Nolan's awe for nature echoes through in songs by "The Sons of the Pioneers," in a swing style recreated in original songs by the new Rounder group "Riders in the Sky." Rose Maddox and Patsy Montana are the predecessors of Emmy Lou Harris and country purist Mary McCaslin.

Lacking Harris' smoothness, McCaslin's voice is rich and nourishing, and nowhere on her albums (such as "Way Out West" Philo 1011, "Old Friends" Philo 1046, and "Prairie in the Sky " Philo 1024) is there compromise with commercialism that could lift her from cult hero to big-buck success. I can taste mountain wildflowers as the words roll off her tongue, celebrating freedom and the wide open spaces. She revitalizes classics such as "Windigo," "They Call the Wind Mariah," and the great "Don't Fence Me In" with her exceptional energy and charm.

In the world of Mary McCaslin, a wild wind always blows, people are judged by their honesty, you can ride a paint all day without hitting barbed wire, and men steal kisses like outlaws. The few people in this wild world are vagrants and nonconformists who put the color in the Western storybook. The Lone Ranger gets back his mask, a lady slips a winning ace to a gambler when she becomes the stakes, and various veranda love songs melt our hearts with the heat of adobes and spinning wagon wheels.

. . . memories of man's desires
Go rolling out to sea.
Like Pegasus come sweeping down,
Carry me away . . .
- from her ode to the "Santana" wind

McCaslin harmonizes with Country fundamentalist Jim Ringer on the album "The Bramble and the Rose" (Philo 1055). On this and Ringer's solo albums (such as "Tramps and Hawkers" Philo 1047) we have a classic Country voice interpreting the Country experience like Jimmie Rogers and Woody Guthrie before him.

This is the legacy. A saddle kept warm by the Earth First! release by Greg Keeler entitled "Songs of Fishing, Sheep, and Guns in Montana" (available in cassette only direct from Earth First! Music Ltd., POB 5871, Tucson, AZ, 85703, for $6.50 postpaid). The title may attract more of the people the album satirizes than those seeking satire. Keeler's wit is as sharp as an old Barlow and he is able to offend almost everyone in a way they can enjoy. As a packer of .45 revolvers I loved being insulted by "Cold, Dead Fingers." The survivalist in me who imagines philosophizing over homemade wine was ridiculed in the hilarious "Last American Cookout." In "Miles City Bucking Horse Sale" I'm reminded of the fragile nature of the male ego when a Dolly Parton lookalike says "You may be tall in the saddle, but you're short in your jeans."

Like all true Country music it feels live, like a conversation, recorded on tape for all of us lacking the kinds of seedy places required for a stage performance. Keeler reeks with sincerity. His is a voice with a body of its own; the kind of voice you'd invite in for venison and shortcake. His rambling guitar and harmonica keep the beer tops popping as moonlite overcomes neon.

I love "The Fossil-Fuel Cowboy" who "needs no brains, 'cause I'm at the top of the food chain," and who says "give me oil till I deplete it, then I won't give a shit 'cause I'll be dead." My favorite, though, follows me around like a bottle-fed colt with its catchy rythym. I sing it off-key in places that deserve better, lyrics making fun of the bankers and corporate heads whose motto is to "Make Bucks, Get Rich . . ."(. . . be better than everybody, get fat and have a heart attack . . .). You can't help but enjoy it.

Country music, then, is country folks reacting to the contradictions of the modern world, suffering the pains of the heart, taking solace and inspiration from the sights and sounds and values of rural America. It is unfenced music for unhobbled spirits. Later we will look at the contribution Bluegrass and so-called "Newgrass" or "JazzGrass" make in this way.

Set the beat with an excited heart watching a Redtail circle ovehead. Find the meolody in a mountain brook. The sustain is up to you.

Lone Wolf Circles is a mountain man, artist, poet, and Earth First!er living on the edge of the Gila Wilderness in New Mexico. He writes a regular column on music in these pages.

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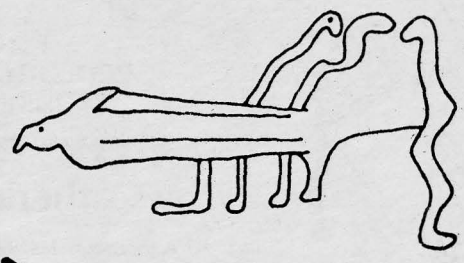
ARMED WITH VISIONS

Whirring in Furry Circles

Whirring in furry circles
I scatter tomatoes with sugar and salt,
examine a catfish anatomy, stop
wars with my mind (not much luck),
but solve volumes of problems and loves
communing with luna moths.

But deep in my vortex center
sometimes the ball-bearing needs oiling
with wine and honey and sperm
and a smirk.

ELISAVIETTA RITCHIE
(from her book "Tightening the Circle over Eel Country," published by Acropolis Books Ltd., 1974.)



Petroglyph found in a rock shelter in the Esselen country of Big Sur California.

LINES WRITTEN BY BOULDER GLOW
midnight 8/8/77

Writing by Boulder glow
high in Flatiron foothills,
flat on my back again
looking up at stars.

Lying on a boulder
overlooking Boulder—
last night having seen
Brakhage "Autopsy" film,
this morn having read up
on Neutron Bomb.

Jeffers' "Purse-Seine"
glitters far & wide in the valley—
Rocky Flats nuclear weapons plant,
Broomfield with its radioactive water.

My Panasonic aerial
points southeast to Denver
like a fishing rod
pulling in Moscow
Radio Symphony
playing Bruckner's 9th.

Lying on cold rock
listening,
looking up
at the vast Glittering above—
the crickets & Bruckner
singing about the same volume.

Shooting Stars.
Dolphin leaping in the Milky Way!

Jeff Poniewaz
Milwaukee
-from Jeff's new book, *Dolphin Leaping In The Milky Way*
(Homeward Press, Box 2307, Berkeley, CA, 1985, $5)

POWER AUTHORITY

"Where were you when I laid the earth's foundations."

Are the State's connections straight
or are its wires forever crossed?
Gulf Stream licks at the coast & power
leaps across where the elements meet.
With a great roar, water abandons
the cliff to fly through space;
first we harness the current,
then the spray, finally noise.
The sun saves nothing, gives it all away.
Moon shifts tidal waters over the face.
Don't make me laugh
with your power, authority,
you whose language is studded with
wherefores, herebys, and pursuants.
Plant your feet on the earth and
bow from your center of gravity.
An appliance spins on a web
of housefold current, lonely,
fragile and constantly changing.
The will of the people
is a bolt of lightning;
try to harness that!
Only turning, turning will
brings us 'round right.
I bow, bow to these mysteries
we all know. None others.

Steve Lewandowski
Honeoye Falls

THE WILD #1

POEM

This is an ugly poem
about an ugly man
whose ugly truck I climbed into
& rode down an ugly highway in

This is an ugly story that tells about
the ugly blanket he covered me with
parked outside an ugly truckstop
with no stars in the ugly sky

This is the part about his ugly prick
that slid into my never-ugly-til-then cunt
and the ugly things he said with his voice
and the ugly things he did with his hands

This is the end of the ugly story
where I stand beside that ugly highway
& watch the ugly truck turn around to drive back
in the same ugly direction from where we had come

Leslea Newman
New York

The earth calls me,
when I'm alone;
in the evening;
when it snows.
How I love to lie in your arms
in the heart of the mother.

Jennifer Smith
Kalispell

THE NAIL

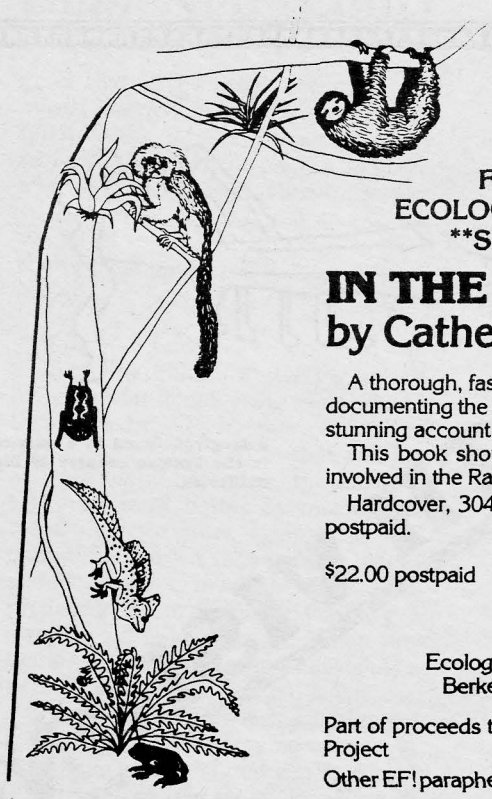
when the nail
goes in too easy
the board might not be sound.

—**Will Staple**
Nevada City

Old Panos Orders his Coffin

Make it simple.
Plenty of sail,
no lead in the keel--
I'll take my chances
with the wind.
Pine'll do.
Put the sweet curve
of a woman's hips
in the hull.
Maybe a harmonica
for lulls.
Leave the anchor ashore.

Joe Stokel
Karfas



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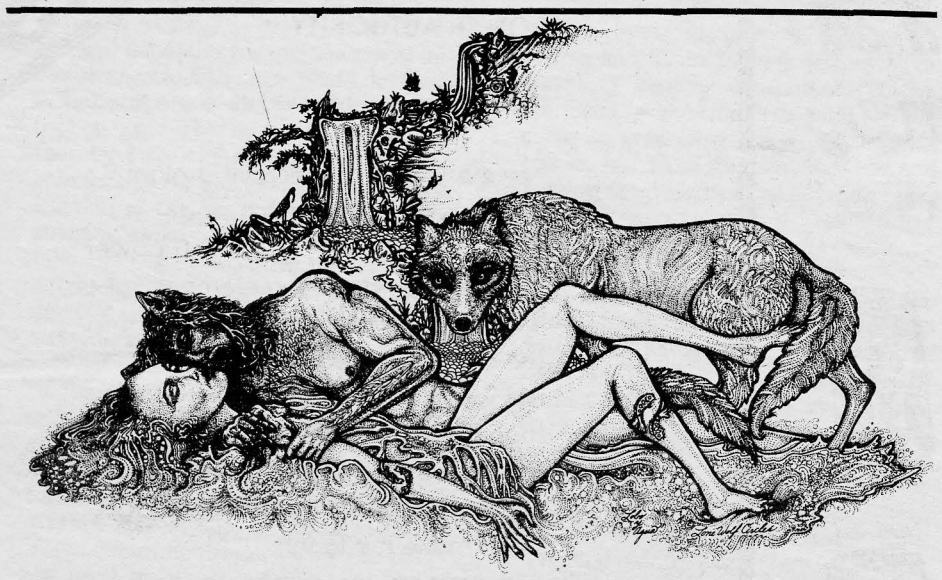

EARTH FIRST! presents the three newest lithographs by our artist Lone Wolf Circles. Each is strictly limited to only 100 copies, signed and numbered; and below the gallery price. In 14" x 18" mats $25.00 plus $5.00 postage; or unmatted $20.00 plus $5.00 postage. These as well as custom paintings, pipes, and knives are available through EF! POB 5871, Tucson, Arizona 85703.

Lone Wolf Circles is a 30 year old anglo living alone on an Anasazi site in New Mexico's magic mountains, seven river crossings from a road. 1985 marks the eleventh year he's survived on his creations, which have alternately amazed, taught and offended. A full half of every order goes into the Earth First! Direct Action Fund.

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Our advertising rates are as follows: Full page - $110, Half page - $70, Fourth page - $40, Column inch - $4. Columns are 2 3/8 inches wide. Page fractions may be done in a variety of ways but all ads must be 2 3/8, 5 3/4, 7 3/8, or 9 3/4 inches wide. Ads that do not fit these dimensions will be PMTed to that width and an additional $5 will be charged. All prices are for camera-ready copy. Classified ads are available for 10¢ a word ($2.50 minimum).

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BACK ISSUES

Yes, back issues of *Earth First!* are available for $1 apiece (to cover our postage and handling expenses). Some of the early issues are already out of print and numbers are running low on others, so order those you wish now.

YULE Dec. 21, 1981 (Vol. II, No. II) First Earth First! Road Show; Oil Leasing in Wilderness Areas; EF! Preserve System; Many early photos of Earth First!.

BRIGID Feb. 2, 1982 (Vol. II, No. III) Earth First! by Dave Foreman (reprinted from *The Progressive*); letters from *Progressive* readers; Oil Leasing in Wilderness Areas.

EOSTAR March 20, 1982 (Vol. II, No. IV) Mardie Murie Interview; Canyonlands Nuke Dump; EF! meeting in Eugene.

BELTANE May 1, 1982 (Vol. II, No. V) Little Granite Creek Drilling Controversy; GO Road; John Crowell; Western Civilization by Chim Blea; Monkeywrenching Seismo Crews; Jail: A Primer.

LITHA June 21, 1982 (Vol. II, No. VI) Little Granite Creek; Moab Roads a BLM WSA; Chim Blea on Babies; Dinkey Creek & McKinley Sequoias; What To Do as an EF!er; Caribou in Maine.

LUGHNASADH Aug. 1, 1982 (Vol. II, No. VII) Rendezvous at Little Granite Creek; Dustrud Resigns as *EF!* Editor; Gary Snyder on Violence; Canyonlands Nuke Dump; Little Granite Survey Stakes Pulled.

MABON Sept. 21, 1982 (Vol. II, No. VIII) ***Out Of Print***

SAMHAIN Nov. 1, 1982 (Vol. III, No. I) BLM Rotten in Utah by Clive Kincaid; Ed Abbey on Books & Gurus; Bob Marshall's 1927 Inventory of Big Wilderness; Dear Ned Ludd/Closing Roads; Foreman Runs for Sierra Club Board; Mama Rue on Samhain; Bill Devall on Nuclear War; Foreman on Endangered Species & Wilderness; How To Do An EF! Wilderness Proposal.

YULE/BRIGID Dec. 21, 1982 (Vol. III, No. II) Salt Creek Blockade; Nightcap Blockade in Australia; Bisti Mass Trespass; Howie Wolke on *Real* Wilderness; Ned Ludd/Closing Roads; Foreman on Primeval Wilderness Management; Bill Devall on Earth Bonding; Foreman on Books; Ed Abbey on Pigs; Mama Rue on Yule; Wilderness & the Bible; Juniper Chaining in Utah; Bisti.

EOSTAR March 21, 1983 (Vol. III, No. III) Franklin River Blockade in Australia; Salt Creek Blockade; GO Road and Bald Mt Road; Chim Blea on Domestication; Howie Wolke on RARE III; Bisti Circus; Deciduous Forest Ecosystem Preserve; Nightcap Blockade Photos (Australia); EF! White Cloud Wilderness Proposal(Idaho); Ned Ludd/Cutting Torch; Howie Wolke on the Wilderness Act; Road Show Diary; EF! in Sonora; Spurs Jackson on Books; Ed Abbey on The Big Woods; Navajo Sam; Nagasaki Johnson on Tactics; Mama Rue on Eostar; Creative Littering.

BELTANE May 1, 1983 (Vol. III, No. IV) Bald Mt Blockade; GO Road; Howie Wolke on Moderation; EF! Wyoming Wilderness Proposal; Canyonlands Nuke Dump; Maze Tar Sands; EF! Smashes Earth Last!; Ned Ludd/Helicopters; California Desert Sellout by BLM; Otter G'Zell on Whales; Mama Rue on Beltane; *Reenchantment of the World* Review; John Seed on Australia Rainforest Direct Action; Bigfoot Interview.

LITHA June 21, 1983 (Vol. III, No. V) Wilderness War in Oregon; Bald Mt Blockaders' Personal Accounts; Mama Rue on Summer Solstice; EF! Wilderness Preserve System and Map; Head of Joaquin on Utah; EF! Glen Canyon Demonstration; Franklin River Victory in Australia; Ned Ludd/Radios; GO Road Stopped; Reform of the Forest Service; Ed Abbey on Conscience of the Conqueror.

LUGHNASADH Aug. 1, 1983 (Vol. III, No. VI) Bald Mt Road Stopped!; Round River Rendezvous; Marcy Willow: You; Chim Blea on Population Control; Photos of EF! Glen Canyon Demo; The Endangered Rainforest by John Seed; Watt Enters Coyote (A Greek Tragedy) by Marc Brown; John Seed on Anthropocentrism; EF! and Dignity; Mama Rue on Lughnasadh.

MABON Sept. 21, 1983 (Vol. III, No. VII) ***OUT OF PRINT***

SAMHAIN Nov. 1, 1983 (Vol. IV, No. I) Sinkyone Redwood Blockade; EF! National Forest Campaign; Rainforest Burgers by Roselle; Bald Mt in Retrospect; EF!: The First 3 Years (with many photos); Howie Wolke on the Forest Service; *Conservation Biology* review; The Battle of Salt Creek (an epic poem) by Marcy Willow; Watt's Last EIS.

YULE Dec. 22, 1983 (Vol. IV, No. II) Forest Service Attacks Wilds, National RARE II Suit, DARN Report, Wolke on the Forest Service; EF! Utah Wilderness Proposal; EF! Ishi Wilderness Proposal (California); How To Do An EF! Wilderness Proposal; Ed Abbey in Utah; EF! Black Rock Desert Wilderness Proposal(Nevada); Sinkyone Struggle; Greenpeace in Siberia; *An Ecological & Evolutionary Ethic* Review; Coors "Beer;" Chim Blea on the Humanpox; Ned Ludd/Vehicle Modifications.

BRIGID Feb. 2, 1984 (Vol. IV, No. III) Oregon RARE II Suit; EF! Idaho Wilderness Proposal; Tuolumne; Forest Service Arrogance; Ned Ludd/Smoke Bombs; Head of Joaquin on Trapping; Coors in Shenandoah.

EOSTAR March 20, 1984 (Vol. IV, No. IV) Burger King Protest; Shipwrecked Environmentalism; Solomon Island Rainforest Action; Bald Mt Road Crumbles; Southern Utah Wilderness; Dave Brower/Muir's Disciple by Bill Devall; Ned Ludd/Tree Spiking & No Evidence; Mama Rue on Enlightenment; 1984 Road Show; Photos of Daintree Buried Protestors.

BELTANE May 1, 1984 (Vol. IV, No. V) Cabinet Mts Grizzlies & Mining; Forest Service Appeals Form; Wolke on the Role of EF!; EF! Owyhee Wilderness Proposal(Idaho, Oregon & Nevada); Angel Dusting Grizzlies; Middle Santiam; Colorado Recreation Dollars; EF! Arizona Wilderness Proposal; Arctic Wildlife Refuge Violated; Bolt Weevils; Devall on the Australian Environmental Movement; Ned Ludd/Survey Stakes & Disabling Vehicles; Deep Ecology & Reproduction; Save the Tuolumne Rally.

LITHA June 20, 1984 (Vol. IV, No. VI) Middle Santiam Blockade; Chim Blea on the Big Outside; Cabinet Mts & Grizzly; Coors in Shenandoah; Saguaro National Monument Mine; Murder on Key Largo; Burger King Demonstrations; Daintree Rainforest; Ned Ludd/Rising & Falling Birds; EF! Protests Canyonlands Nuke Dump; *Sterile Forest* Review; Basic Principles of Deep Ecology; Sinkyone Continues.

LUGHNASADH Aug. 1, 1984 (Vol. IV, No. VII) Middle Santiam Blockade; EF! Occupies Montana Senator's Office; North American Bioregional Congress; Round River Rendezvous; Montana on Civil Disobedience; Petroleum Conflicts with Wilderness Analyzed; Everything You Ever Wanted To Know About The Forest Service Part 1 by Bobcat; Sacred Cows; Foreman on Professionalism; Hunting Wild Life; Devall and Sessions on the Books of Deep Ecology.

SAMHAIN Nov. 1, 1984 (Vol. V, No. I) EF! Occupies Regional Forester's Office (Oregon); Hardesty Avengers Spike Trees; Old Growth Rally; "What Do You Expect To Accomplish?"; Cop Raid on Bald Mt; Your Taxes Destroy Rainforest; Down (With) The Amazon; Green Politics; Elfbusters; Roxby Downs in Australia; Wilderness — the Global Connection; Ned Ludd/Water & Machines; Forest Service Appeal Form; Everything You Ever Wanted To Know About The Forest Service Part 2 by Bobcat; Direct Action by Devall & Sessions; Gary Snyder: Song of the Taste; Beyond Sacred Cows; Stiles in Defense of Dogs.

YULE Dec. 21, 1984 (Vol. V, No. II) Texas Wilderness Logged; 30,000 Miles of Road in RARE II Areas; Bridger-Teton Forest Supervisor; Alaska: Kadashan, Denali, & Johnny Sagebrush; Middle Santiam Trials; Japan Grizzly; German Nuke Dump; Chipko; Solomon Islands Rainforest; Daintree Rainforest Buried Protest; Environmental Professionalism Discussion; 1984: Wilderness Boom or Bust?; A National Range Service; Non-Game; Devall on Whither Environmentalism?; Cecelia Ostrow on Deep Ecology; Hardesty Mt Tree Spiking; Ed Abbey on *Ecodefense*.

BRIGID Feb. 2, 1985 (Vol. V, No. III) Meares Island; Military Land Grab in West (Supersonic Overflights); Mission Symposium; FS Employment Tyranny; National Park Mining; Florida Panther; Shooting Wolves from Air; Cathedral Forest Petition; North Kalmiopsis; Criticizing the Environmental Movement; End of the Yellowstone Grizzly?; In Defense of Western Civilization; Stop Planting Trout; Ned Ludd/Bigfoot.

EOSTAR March 20, 1985 (Vol. V, No. IV) Rocky Mountain Gas Drilling; EF! Gives DOE Nuke Waste; Montana Wilderness Demos; Yellowstone Grizzly Management; Texas Demo; Rainforest Report; Swedish River; Wayne NF; Southern Utah; King Range; Arctic NWR Desecrated; Joseph Canyon; John Day Mining; Great Exchange; Acid Rain; In Defense of Humor; Wolke on Hunting; Nagasaki on Symbols & Lifestyles; Biocentrism of Western Civilization; Ned Ludd/Advanced Billboarding.

BELTANE May 1, 1985 (Vol. V, No. V) Yellowstone's Watergate, Snowmobiles in Yellowstone, Alabama Wilderness, Denali Mine, Grand Canyon Mine, Middle Santiam, Welfare Ranchers, Great Exchange, Welcome to Earth First!, Critters Protest Bighorn Forest Plan, RNR Management, Beaverhead NF, Pine Beetles, African Parks Poisoned, Real Environmental Professionalism, Dark Side of Wilderness, Review of *Fragmented Forest*.

LITHA June 21, 1985 (Vol. V, No. VI) Road Frenzy, Tree Climbing Hero, Old Growth Actions in Oregon, EF! Guide to NF Planning, Aircraft in Grand Canyon, Mt. Graham Observatory, Jarbidge Elk, Hells Canyon, Grand Canyon Mine, Rainforest Insert & Ten Questions, King Range, Mike Frome on Fat Cat Conservationists, Review of *Meeting the Expectations of the Land*, Review of *In the Rainforest*, Strategic Monkeywrenching, Advanced Tree Spiking, Tyrone (WI) Nuke.

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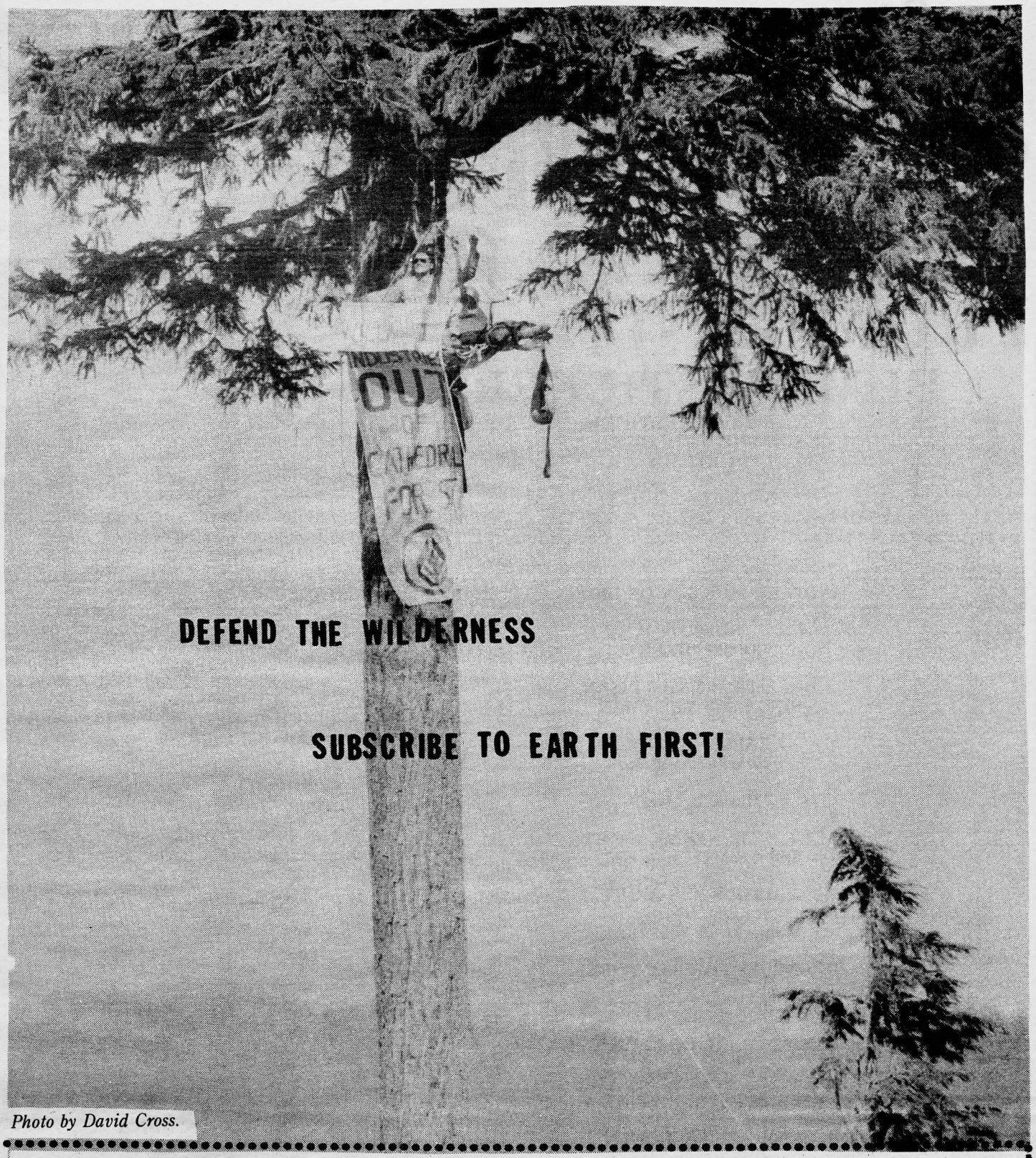

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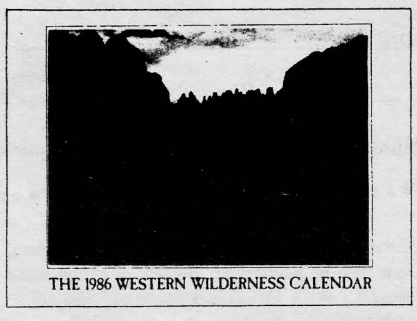
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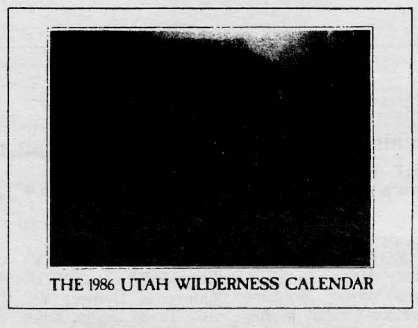
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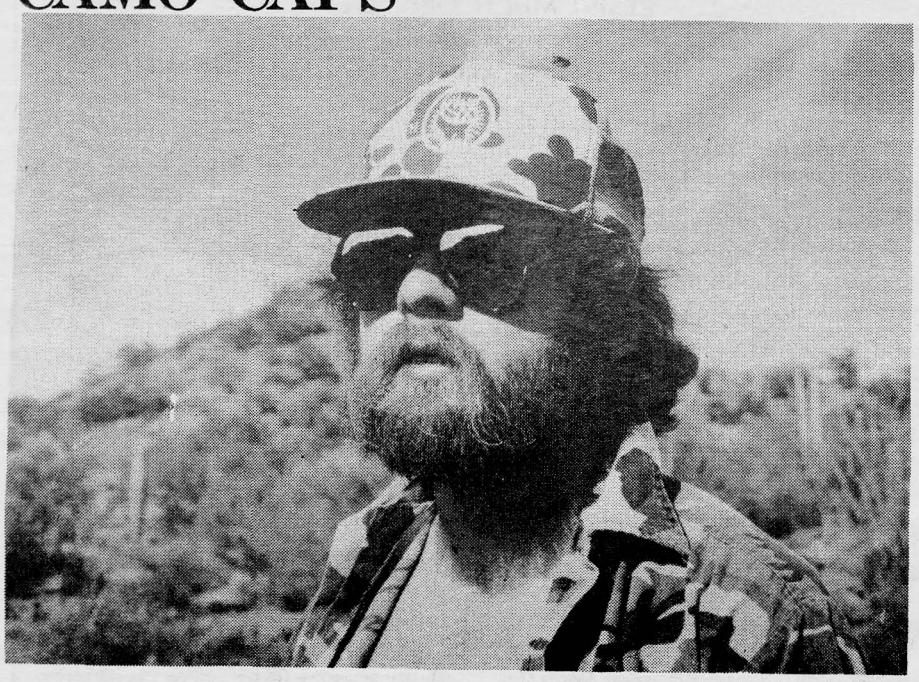

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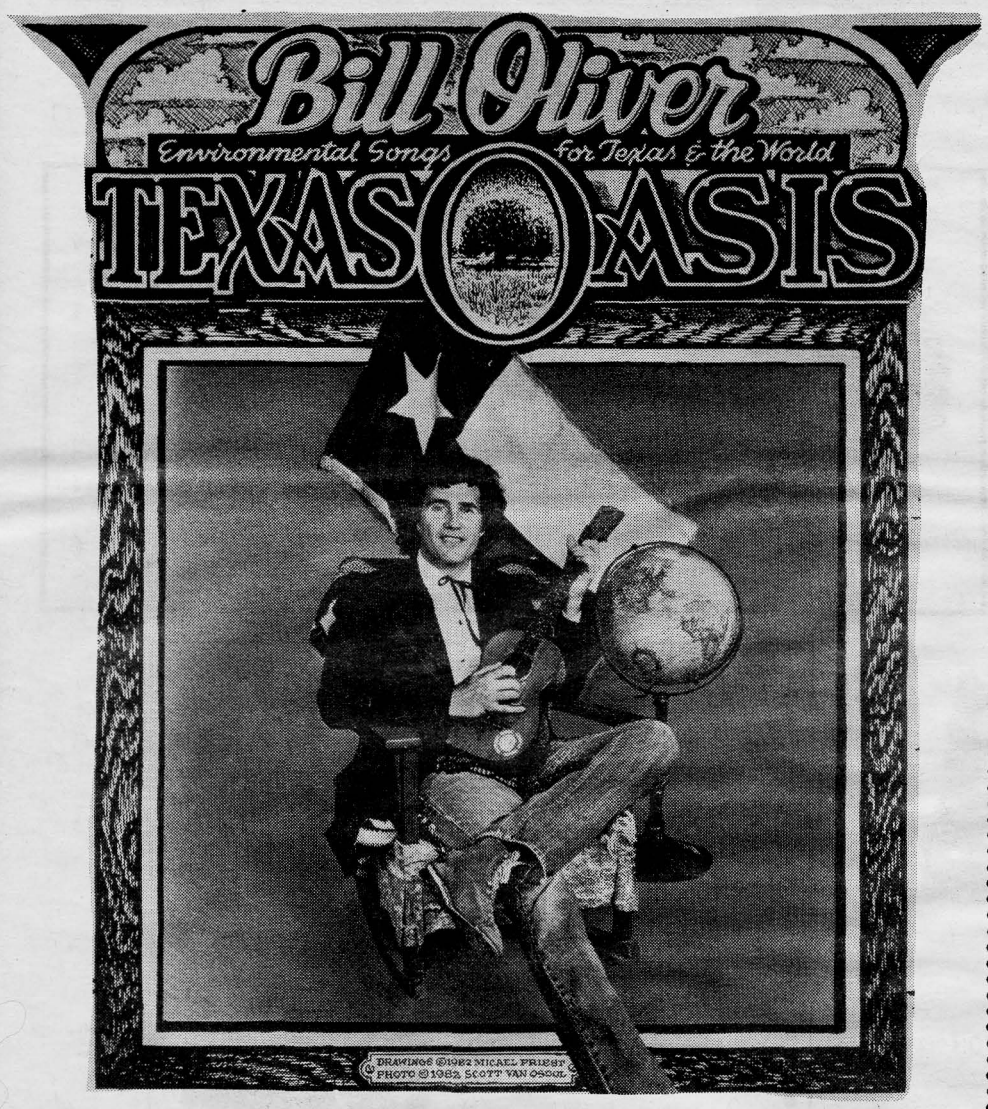

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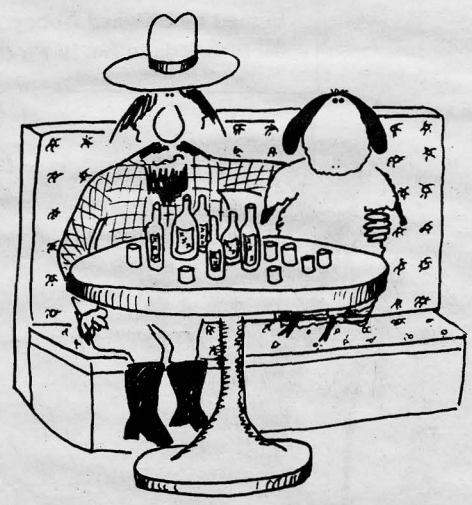

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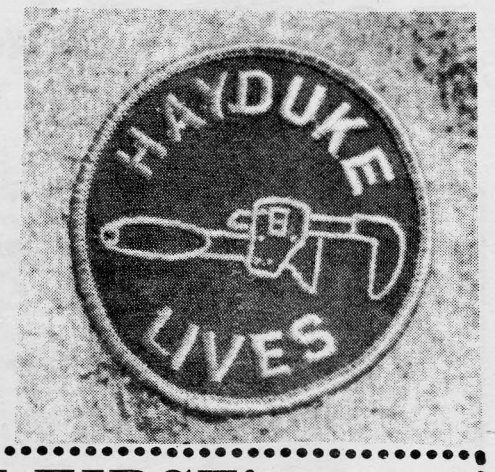

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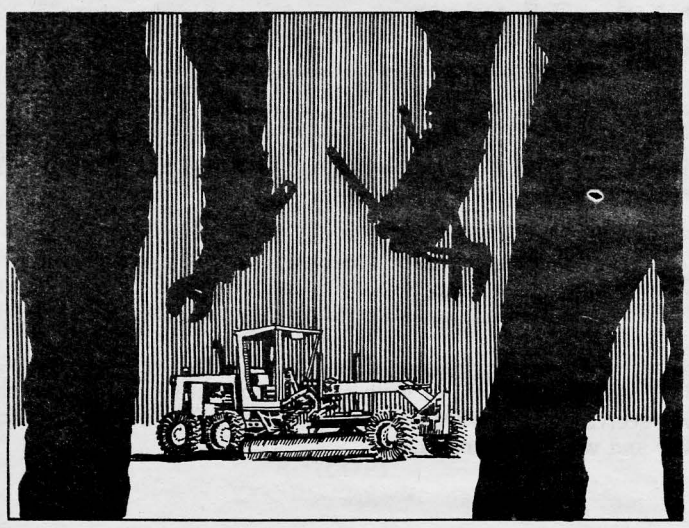

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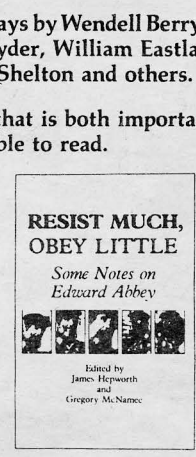

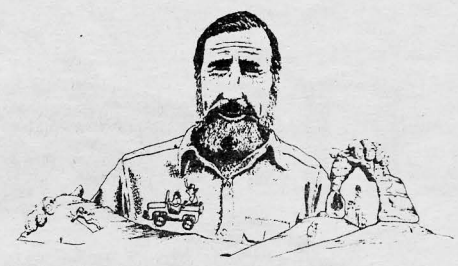

Edward Abbey can boast of professional success. He has achieved wide fame as an author of novels and essays and has been accepted by the Eastern literary junta as a rare Western specimen worthy of *some* notice. He is visible as a champion of many causes, a few of which dismay his staunchest fans. Clearly identified with the radical environmental movement, Abbey's *The Monkey Wrench Gang* has contributed the symbol (the monkey wrench), the tone (outrage tempered with humorous detachment), and the character types (George Hayduke, Seldom Seen Smith, Bishop Love) for the next battle for the soul of the American West. But have these activities been a hindrance to genuine appreciation of Edward Abbey, the writer?

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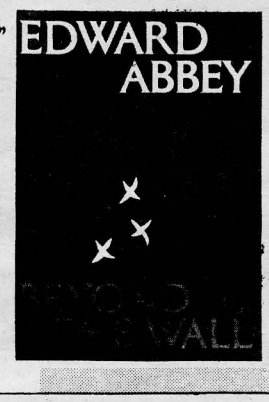

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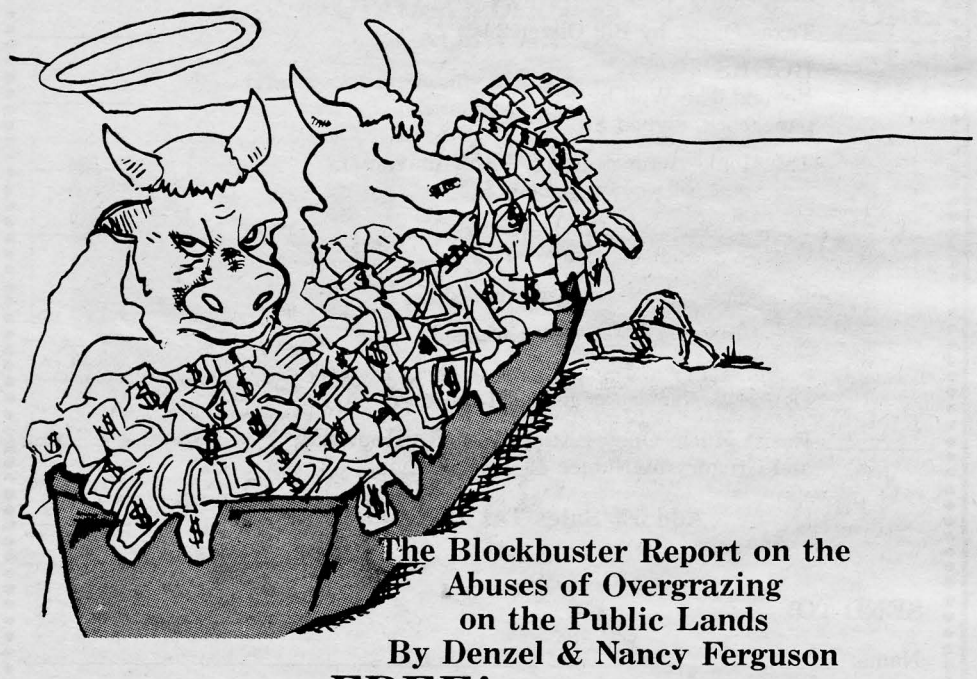

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LONE WOLF CIRCLES

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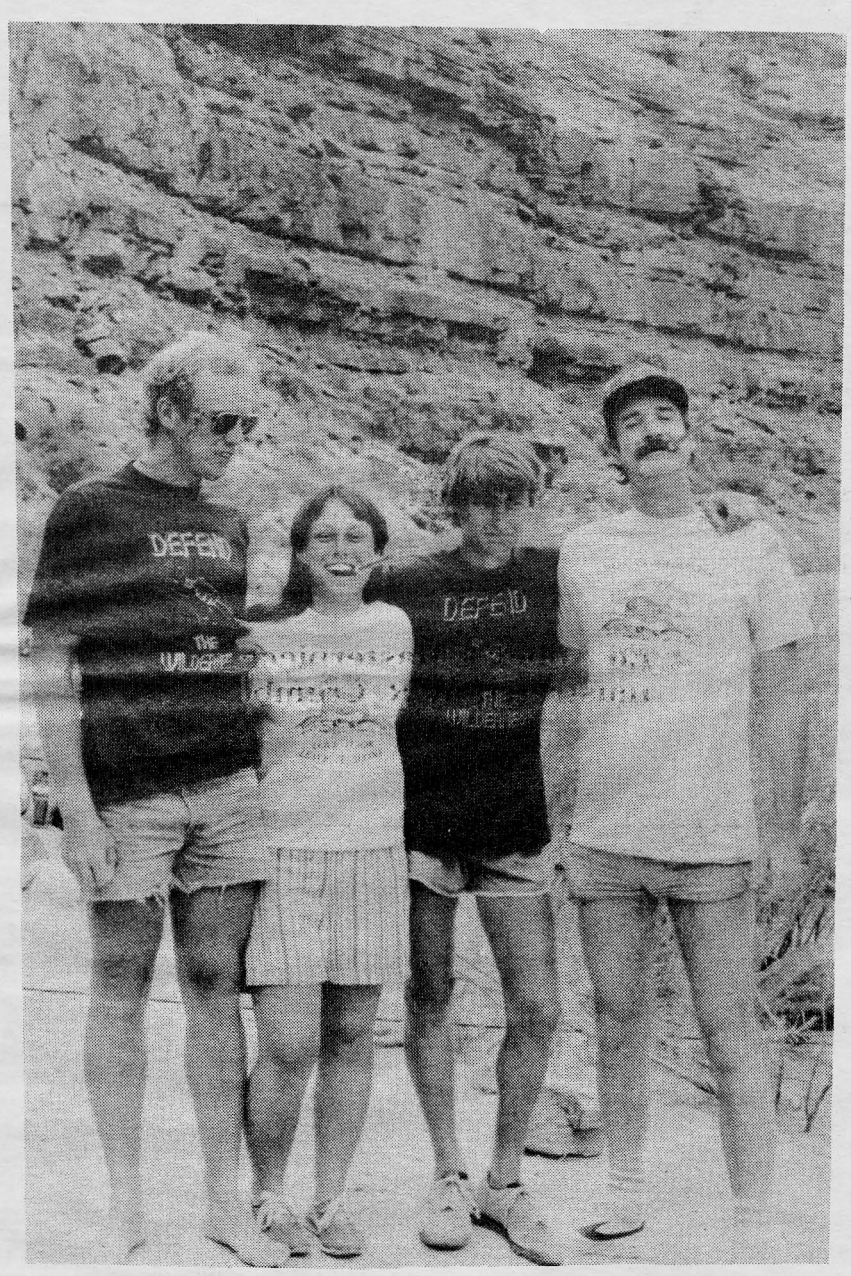
This book showcases the early artwork and poetry of Lone Wolf Circles. It traces the pursuit of wilderness: *"And beneath the ash, the ash of pavement, the certainty of seed."* The promised return of our wild selves. Available from Earth First! for $5.00 postpaid. 100% of every sale goes to Earth First!

T-SHIRTS



DEFEND THE WILDERNESS

The monkeywrencher's shirt. Drawing by Bill Turk. Silver design on black 100% cotton Beefy-T's for night work or black design on white 100% cotton ($9.00 postpaid). Also available in black long sleeves Beefy-T's ($11 postpaid) and in black french-cut 50/50 blend ($9.00 postpaid).

AMERICAN CANYON FROG

Roger Candee's popular American Canyon Frog (Croakus Abyssus Pistoffus) with the message "AMERICAN WILDERNESS LOVE IT OR LEAVE IT ALONE." A very colorful 4-color design on a grey 100% cotton Beefy-T. $11.00 postpaid.

'85 ROUND RIVER RENDEZVOUS

This is a one-time only shirt for the 1985 Earth First! Round River Rendezvous. Finally we have a *pretty* shirt (five colors, mountains, trees, streams, etc.) which attempts to capture the spirit of the mountains of Colorado. This is a collector's item and will not be reprinted. Features the words: "1985 Round River Rendezvous" and "Earth First!" Designed by artist Kathy Faith. On a sand colored 100% cotton Beefy-T. $11.00 postpaid. *only 3 small, 1 medium and 6 XL available*

EARTH FIRST!

Fist logo with words "EARTH FIRST! No Compromise in Defense of Mother Earth!" in black on green, red or yellow in 100% cotton Beefy-T's or in french cut 50/50 blend. $9.00 postpaid. In kids' sizes, too! Only color is green, 50/50 blend, sizes XS-L. $6.00 postpaid. Specify kids' when you order.

TOOLS

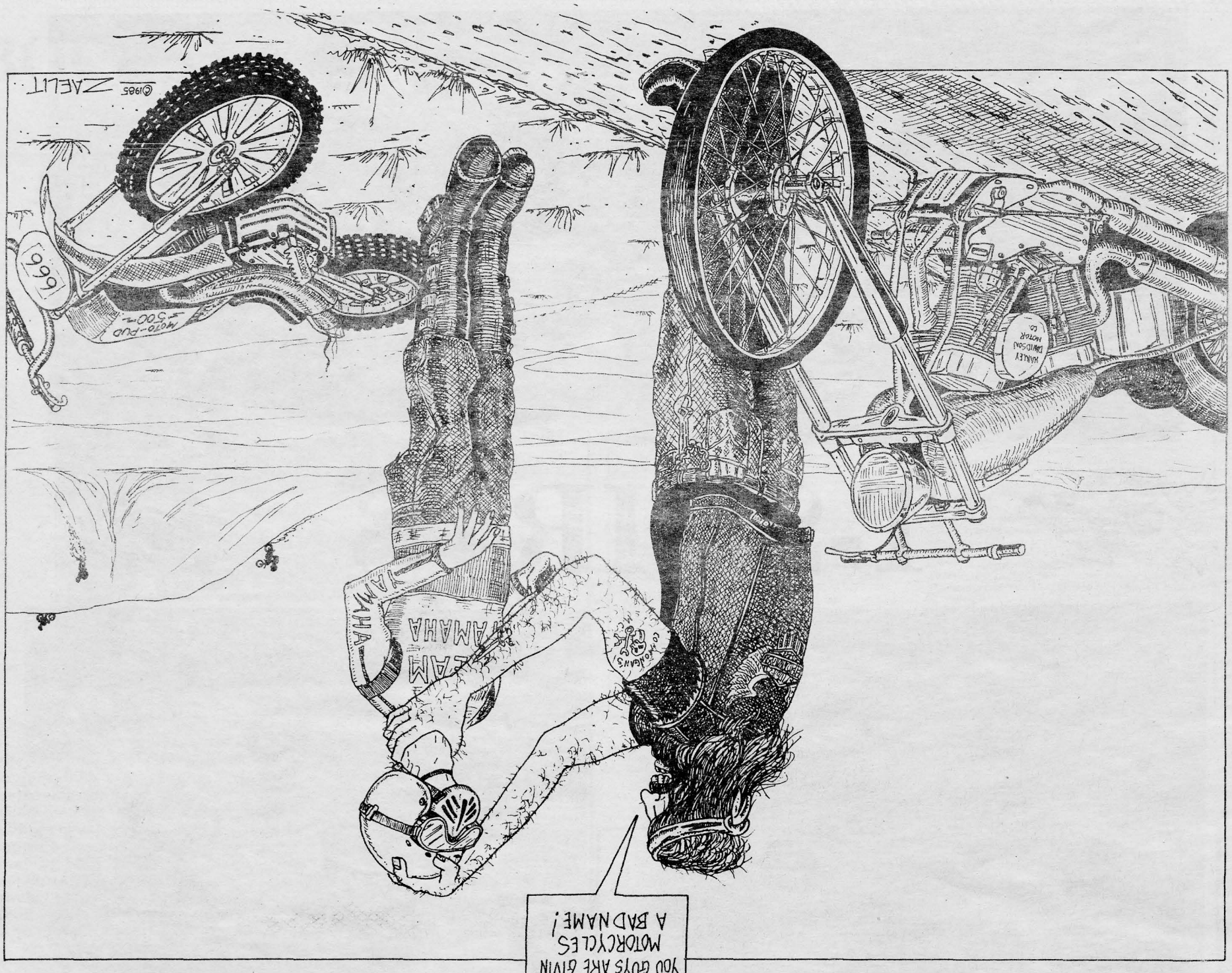
John Zaelit's powerful impression of wilderness defense both old and new, the monkeywrench and the warclub crossed. Black design on tan or blue 100% cotton Beefy-T's. $9.00 postpaid.

MONKEYWRENCH BOMBER

People will love it or hate, but they certainly will notice this shirt, featuring another zany masterpiece from John Zaelit: a WWII bomber with EF! insignia dropping monkeywrenches. Ghost white design on navy blue 100% cotton Beefy-T. $9.00 postpaid. Be the first in your ward to get one!

THE CRACKING OF GLEN CANYON DAMN

Jim Stiles' infamous masterpiece. Keep on praying for that one little precision earthquake! Black design on blue or tan heather 75/25 blend. $9.00 postpaid.



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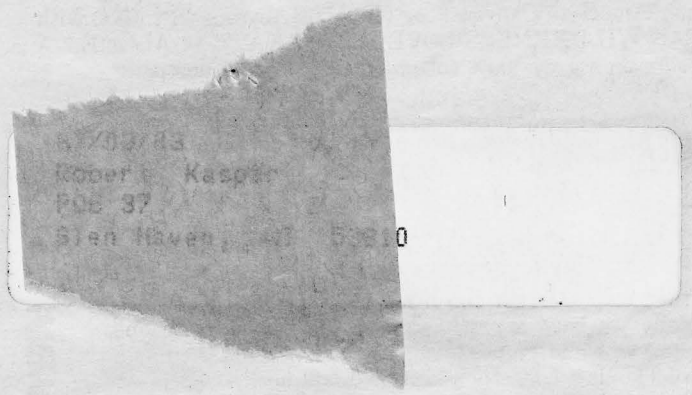
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